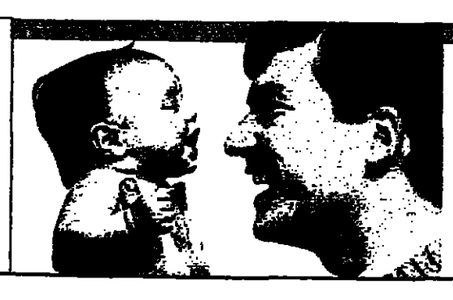
THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,450 THURSDAY DECEMBER 14 1995

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Elizabeth Noel, a Tory in hostile territory
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BRYANT'S EYE
Panto in the Olympics? Oh yes it could be! PAGE 46

Lottery regulator gives details of his "free flights" trip to America

Inquiry to be held into Camelot row

BY JON ASHWORTH, ARTHUR LEATHLEY, AND ALEXANDRA FREAN

PETER Davis, the Director General of the National Lottery, is to launch an investigation into allegations made by Richard Branson about the tactics used by Camelot to win the contact to run the National Lottery.

He acted as a question was laid in Parliament about a visit he made to Australia.

Yesterday Alan Williams, Labour MP for Swansea West, tabled a Commons question to Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, asking "when the Director-General of Oflot visited Australia, who paid for the visit, how long was the visit, and what assessment [was made by her] as to the conformity of the visit with guidelines?"

Earlier this week Mr Davis admitted taking five free flights in America on a jet owned by GTech, an American company behind the successful Camelot bid for the lottery contract.

MPs of all parties have accused both Mr Davis and the National Heritage Department of making insufficient inquiries about the activities of GTech, which has been involved in running lotteries worldwide. It was the GTech chairman, Guy Snowden, who was accused by Richard Branson in a *Panorama* programme on Monday of attempting to bribe him not to challenge Camelot's bid.

Mr Davis said last night that a senior and independent person would be appointed to examine the allegations made by Mr Branson. He said: "It is my duty to ensure that those involved in the operation of the National Lottery are fit and proper to do so and it is to this question that the investigation will be directed. I shall announce who is to conduct the investigation and its terms of reference shortly."

Camelot denied that it had paid for Mr Davis' flights to Australia last month but a spokesman said the company had invited Mr Davis to a dinner in Australia, attended by several other international lottery directors, and hosted by Tim Holley, chief executive of Camelot. "Nothing that could be remotely considered inappropriate has ever been offered to Mr Davis," said David Rigg, director of communications.

Mr Davis also denied that the trip to an international lottery convention in Perth, Western Australia, was paid for by Camelot. He said he was accompanied by his wife and he paid for her ticket. He paid his own hotel bills and was preparing a detailed report, outlining each meal and detailing gifts he received, including pens and mugs.

He denied a further rumour that was circulating in Westminster that he had stayed at the Florida home of Mr Snowden whilst in the United States. While he went to Florida as part of his investigation of how US lotteries operate he has never visited Mr Snowden's home he said. GTech has a 22.5 per cent stake in Camelot, and has a share of profits running at £1 million a week.

Mr Davis said he only accepted free flights from GTech, the American lottery operator, after seeking the advice of colleagues at Oflot.

The rumours mark an intensification of the apparent dirty tricks war which has raged around Mr Davis since controversy erupted on Monday.

Details of Mr Davis's visit to America in the last week of October 1994 emerged last night. Mr Davis said: "In the period running up to the launch, I simply could not have done it in any other way. I made a decision, consciously and openly, that this was the most efficient way to go about it."

Oflot paid Mr Davis's hotel bills during the trip, while meals were paid for locally. Mr Davis is preparing a 40-page dossier on the visit, which will soon be submitted to the Public Accounts Committee.

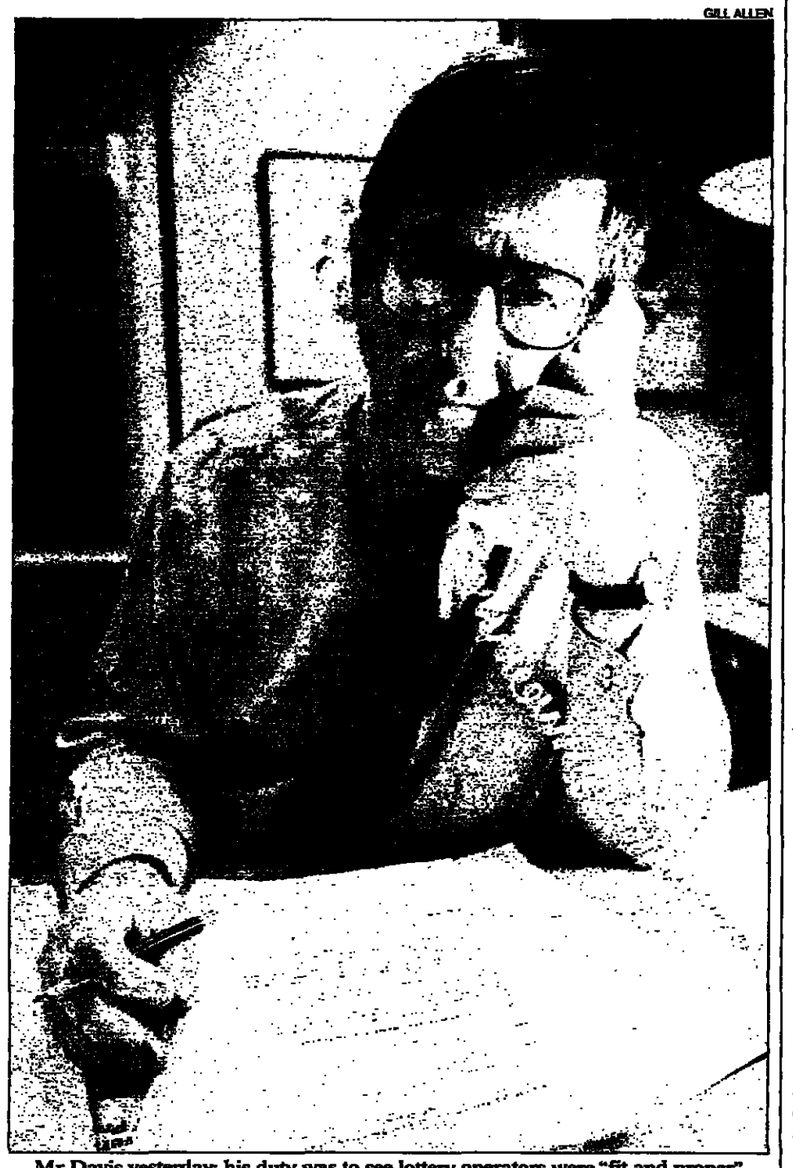
He caught a scheduled flight from London to Austin, Texas, to inspect what was then the world's biggest lottery start-up. The flight to Austin was paid for by Oflot.

Mr Davis flew from Austin to Tallahassee, the Florida state capital, in a jet belonging to Gtech. He held talks with the Florida state lottery, which is run by AWI, a rival to GTech in the bid to run the British lottery.

Bruce Mayberry, programme director for AWI, confirmed that Mr Davis had visited the company on October 20 1994. Mr Mayberry said: "He was scheduled to leave at 4pm or 4.30pm, but we were running late. I was embarrassed about him missing his flight but he told me not to worry because he was flying on GTech's private plane. A limo with a driver wearing a peaked cap came to take him to the airport; it had to wait for him for about an hour. I thought it was a bit odd that he should visit us on another competitor's money."

AWI is one of America's biggest lottery operators and was part of four unsuccessful consortia bidding for the licence to run the National Lottery.

GILL ALLEN



Mr Davis yesterday: his duty was to see lottery operators were "fit and proper"

Mortgage rate reduced to lowest for a generation

BY JANET BUSH AND PHILIP WEBSTER

MORTGAGE rates fell to their lowest level for almost 30 years yesterday after Kenneth Clarke cut interest rates by a quarter point to 6.5 per cent. The Chancellor acted to sustain the faltering economic recovery but the modesty of the cut disappointed business leaders and some Tory MPs.

Even so it was enough to prompt a surprise reduction by lenders desperate to revive the housing market. The Halifax Building Society, Britain's largest, cut its rates by a similar amount and a few other societies followed.

Mortgage rates had been trimmed two weeks ago in anticipation of the base rate cut and no further decrease was expected.

There was still widespread disappointment among Conservative backbenchers who felt that a base rate cut of at least 0.5 per cent was needed. John Townend, chairman of the backbench finance committee, welcomed the move but added that the Chancellor would have to act again by the beginning of February. "It's got to be the first of a few cuts. I anticipate it is the first instalment in successive quarter per cent cuts needed to get growth going and achieve the target of 3 per cent growth."

Mr Clarke told BBC Radio 4's *World at One*: "I take decisions that are necessary to keep the recovery on course and to carry on creating jobs and creating prosperity. If I listened to all the short-term advice I get, I would have blown this recovery off course a long time ago." He added: "We are now becoming a low inflation economy. We must get used to the behaviour that comes with that."

After the decision taken at yesterday's meeting between Mr Clarke and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, industrial leaders said that still lower rates would be needed to revive the economy.

Mr George said that he had been delighted to advise a 0.25 per cent cut but it was also clear that he and the Chancellor had considered pushing for a larger one. However, both appeared to be satisfied with what was obviously a compromise, particularly in view of yesterday's news of a modest rise in retail sales and a fallin unemployment.

The base rate reduction was the first since February 8 last year. This was followed by three increases as a pre-emptive strike against inflation which, together with the very large tax rises of recent years, have succeeded in dragging down the economy.

Richard Brown, Deputy Director-General of The British Chambers of Commerce, said that yesterday's cut would not make any difference to consumers or to companies' willingness to invest. He said: "The Chancellor is now showing excessive wariness."

Professor Patrick Minford, one of the "three wise men" on the Chancellor's independent forecasting panel, said that rates should have been cut by at least 0.5 per cent given the very weak economic situation.

"There will be a series of rate cuts next year with the Bank of England ritually

Continued on page 2, col 6

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Wife of stabbed GP speaks out

The wife of a doctor who was stabbed in his surgery has criticised the Government's Care in the Community policy after learning that his alleged attacker had been freed from a psychiatric hospital.

Dr Tony Inwald's wife, Naomi, said: "What has been happening is that this Government has pursued a policy of community care which doesn't always work. Care in the Community is not effective" **Page 3**

Sara Thornton faces a retrial

Sara Thornton is to stand trial again for the killing of her violent and drunken husband after the Court of Appeal quashed her murder conviction yesterday.

Mrs Thornton had served five years for stabbing her husband Malcolm, 44, while he was in a drunken stupor. She will remain on bail until the trial **Page 9**

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China jails dissident for 14 years

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

WEI JINGSHENG, China's leading dissident, was sentenced in Peking yesterday to 14 years in jail for "attempting to overthrow the Government" after a trial from which the foreign press and diplomats were excluded.

The sentence is only a year shorter than the one Mr Wei received in 1979 when he was convicted of "counter-revolution" for criticising the Communist party, Chairman Mao, Deng Xiaoping, and championing democracy.

The spokesman for Peking's No 1 Intermediate People's Court, which was sealed off by police at a distance of 600 yards for the latest trial, said Mr Wei had also been "deprived of his political rights" for three years.

Last night, relatives of Mr Wei said he would appeal. They have ten days to do so, but an unsuccessful appeal can result in a tougher sentence. After the five-hour trial, the state radio broadcast details of Mr Wei's alleged crimes. He published articles in foreign media criticising the Chinese Government and demanding Tibetan independence. He also was accused of raising funds for anti-government projects by organising an art exhibition and by buying shares in a credit co-operative.



Wei: accused of attempt to overthrow regime

Outside the court Ying Jing, a veteran dissident who had worked with Mr Wei when he was writing wallposters at Peking's short-lived Democracy Wall in 1978-9 and had himself served eight years in prison, said: "The authorities have the most difficult job. It's always difficult to restrain thinking." He shook off a policeman, but was soon dragged into a police car.

Han Dongfang, leader of China's free trade union movement and a survivor of Tiananmen Square now in exile in Hong Kong, said that the tepid international response to Mr Wei's detention showed that human rights had been abandoned in favour of trade. He said, too, that Mr Wei was the leader of the Chinese democratic movement and that by sentencing him the regime was saying to his followers: "We can do this to you." Chris Patten, the Hong Kong Governor, said he would pray for Mr Wei.

If Mr Wei, 46, serves his entire 14-year sentence he will have been behind bars or in the gulag, and almost wholly in isolation, from 1979 to 2009, except for seven months of liberty after he was released in late 1993 in a vain attempt by Peking to secure the 2000 Olympics.

Facing the storm, page 16

Euro-time Bill is thwarted

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MOVES to give southern Britain an extra hour of daylight on winter afternoons were halted by the Cabinet yesterday.

Ministers bowed to pressure from Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, to withhold official support for John Butterfill's Bill, bringing clocks into line with Europe. The Bill would mean sunrise being delayed until after 10am in northern Scotland.

The Cabinet decided to remain neutral over the proposal by the Conservative MP for Bournemouth West. The British Time (Extra Daylight) Bill will be debated next month.

TV's voice of motor racing may be silenced

BY JOHN GOODBODY
SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

MURRAY WALKER, the much-parodied voice of motor racing, may soon be without a microphone after the BBC yesterday lost its contract to screen Formula One Grands Prix.

ITV has scooped the rights to the next five seasons beginning in 1997 for a record £60 million — ten times the present BBC contract price. The corporation is already reeling from the loss of the FA Cup final for the first time for 60 years.

Mr Walker, 72, who has commentated on Grands Prix for 47 years, was reticent about whether ITV could cover the sport without him. Asked whether he would be prepared to work for ITV, he said: "I really do not know. I have only just heard the news."

He added that he was disappointed that the BBC was not given the chance to bid for the championship. However, it is extremely unlikely that the BBC would have been prepared to match the money that ITV, having lost many top sports events to Sky, was offering the Formula One Constructors' Association.

Mr Walker once said about his commentating: "I do not make mistakes. I make prophecies which immediately turn out to be wrong." Some of his most famous utterances have included: "Nigel Mansell — the man of the race — the man of the day — the man from the Isle of Man" and "an Achilles heel for the McLaren team this year, and it is literally the heel because it is the gear box."

The only person who was happy yesterday about the possibility that he may not be heard on television was his wife, Elizabeth. She said: "Whoopee, now I will see more of him at home."

A BBC spokeswoman said: "We are deeply disappointed at the news. It came out of the blue. We had no notice of it." It televised its first British Grand Prix in 1949 and covered the world championship every year since 1978.



Walker: screech to a halt?

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If it moves or if it's stationery ... privatise it

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

BETTY BOOTHROYD had a twitchy look yesterday as ministers announced the privatisation of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. HMSO print *Hansard* and all the official parliamentary papers. With each passing month Madam Speaker hears the shells landing closer to her own trench.

There's a festive game in which you start with a phrase, then lop off the last word, then the last two ... successively increasing the size of the amputation until a surprising result is reached. Tory privatisation policy seems to resemble this. The statement yesterday suggested that, for the moment, it is the *office* which is to be shunted off into the private sector: that is to say the staff, the administration and the printing works are to go.

As Roger Freeman, the Minister, pointed out, this will enable the company to use the machinery for other publications too. *Titbits*, perhaps. *Boyz*, or *Seventeen*? Heaven help the foreman in charge when parts of *Hello!* get interspersed with pages of *The Official Report*. Readers of *Hello!* — decent, family-minded people — would blanch at the smears, the tittle-tattle, the sheer vulgarity which passes for parliamentary debate.

But though the O in HMSO is to be privatised, the HMS (said the Minister) will stay. Staff responsible for HM Stationery remain in public employ, to give the privatised O work.

And next? The S: Her Majesty's *stationery*. The Queen's notepaper could easily attract commercial interest. British businesses have already been asked to sponsor flagpoles outside Buckingham Palace.

A discreet plug for (say) Marmite or Janet Reger could be placed above Her Majesty's letterheads, saving the taxpayers' money. For centuries the Crown has sponsored the private sector by giving those "By Royal Appointment" coats of arms. Let the private sector returned the compliment. Thus we shed the S and the O, leaving just HM.

Next to be privatised could be the *Majesty*. When, years ago, Tony Benn made the suggestion that the Tories might get the private sector to pay for royal pomp ("The State Opening, sponsored by Benson & Hedges," chuckled Benn), he meant it as a joke. But under the Tories the jokes of the Eighties are the White Papers of the Nineties.

Majesty cries out for flotation. The Government already seeks private sponsorship for the Royal Yacht. Thus do we remove the O, the S and the M from HMSO. We begin to understand Miss Boothroyd's anxiety. For what is left? *Her*.

And why not? The Speakership could be a real money-spinner. The Speaker's procession into the chamber, followed by the chap with the golden mace and the chaplain in antique costume, needs to be handled with reverence. It could be franchised to Classic FM: "*Miss Boothroyd's shoes by Anello & Davide*".

The Speaker's Chair itself, in green leather, comes with a canopy fringed in brocade and tassles. Harrods could handle this with aplomb. A tasteful logo could be worked in gold thread into the frieze. The store might sell replicas.

Which brings us to the Speaker's House. Barratt Homes are seeking to reposition their corporate identity upmarket, but such an association risks re-positioning Miss Boothroyd downmarket. My own view is that the better sort of estate agency — Savills, perhaps? — should be encouraged to bid for the freehold. A small Savills banner might be flown from the tower above Miss Boothroyd's bedroom.

You laugh, reader? Wait.

Master of Rolls stresses call of public interest

Increase in conveyancing charges 'may be unlawful'

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Master of the Rolls has warned the Law Society that any proposal to eradicate cut-price conveyancing fees may be unlawful or "contrary to public policy".

Sir Thomas Bingham, the country's most senior civil judge, reminded the Law Society on the eve of its conveyancing debate of its duty to act in the public interest. In a letter to the Law Society he says it "can scarcely discharge its public duty ... by acting in a way which may be unlawful because contrary to public policy".

Sir Thomas, who was a guest at the Law Society council dinner last night, said he had not seen any specific proposal. But in general he says he would not be able to agree a new rule unless satisfied it was lawful.

Sir Thomas' letter, which went to all 75 council members, added: "It would be very embarrassing for any Master of the Rolls to concur in a rule which fell foul of the relevant regulatory authority." His comments are contained in a letter to John Edge, the Bournemouth solicitor leading the campaign backed by some 12,000 solicitors for curbs on cut-price fees. It comes as solicitors prepare for a heated debate today in which Martin Mears, the Law Society president, and Robert Sayer, vice president, will try to allay widespread concern among solicitors that cut-price fees may lead to a mass of negligence claims. Debate will centre on a new guideline scale of fee, which the Consumers Association has said will double the average conveyancing fee for a £75,000 house to £625.

Solicitors who charge less would be refused insurance cover under the profession's indemnity fund and have to find insurance on the open market.

But in his letter the Master of the Rolls says: "It would seem to me clear that the indemnity rules may not be used to achieve ends which do not concern the provision of indemnity against loss but have some other object."

He quotes from a speech by Lord Brightman, that the purpose of the insurance scheme was to "safeguard the lay public and not professional practitioners". Sir Thomas adds that another aspect of "lawfulness" on which the Law Society will also wish to satisfy itself concerns "fair trading and competition".

"It [the council of the Law Society] can scarcely discharge its public duty under the Solicitors Act (1974) by acting in a way which may be unlawful because contrary to public policy."

It would be "very embarrassing for any Master of the Rolls to concur in a rule which fell foul of the relevant regulatory authority", he says, adding however that he would be "greatly reassured" by a convincing and favourable opinion of leading counsel in the field.

Fair play in sport 'is no crime'

BY FRANCES GIBB

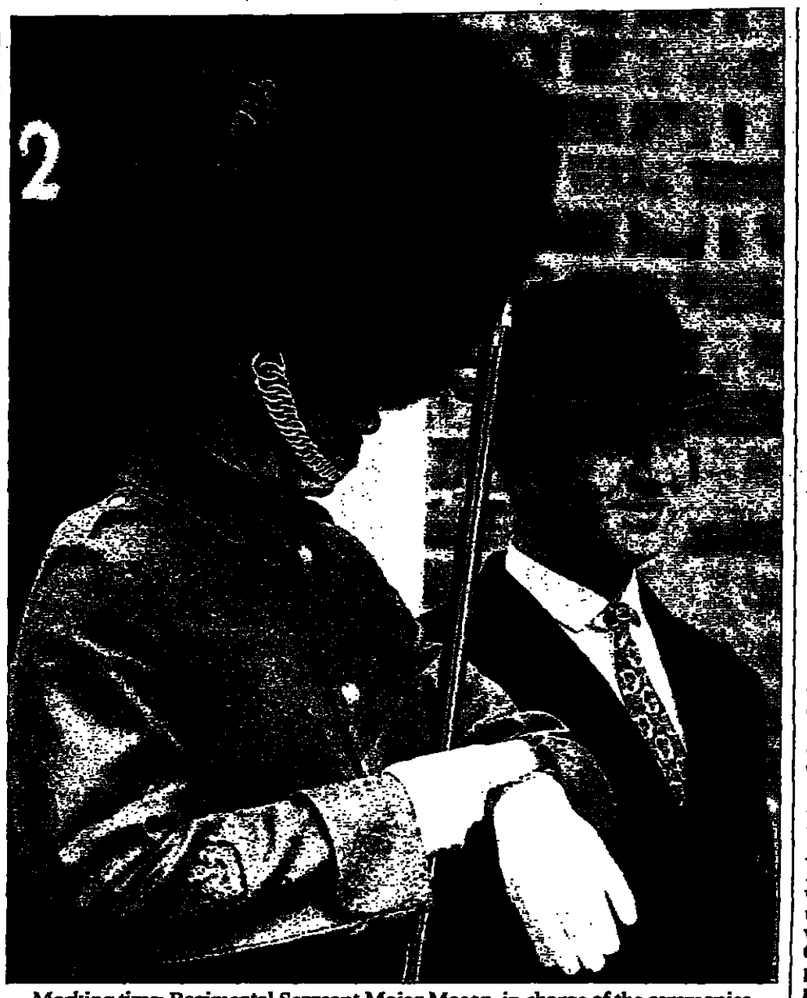
SPORTSMEN who inflict violent injuries during the course of a game should not be prosecuted if they have kept to the rules, the Law Commission, says today.

The Government's law reform body's proposals would clarify the grey area of injuries in sport. In cricket, for example, a fast bowler would only be at risk of criminal prosecution if his conduct was clearly outside the rules of the game.

"If, despite warnings by the umpire, he persists in bowling dangerously and the batsman is injured, then there is no reason why he should not be convicted of a criminal offence if the court is sure that he intended to inflict injury."

The commission suggests that a "special recognition scheme" be drawn up by the Sports Council listing approved sports and martial arts. In those sports, a person would no longer be guilty of an offence if he or she injured another player while playing the sport by the rules.

The commission also proposes that consenting adults who indulge in sado-masochism that does not cause any serious disabling injury should not be guilty of a criminal offence. The commission floats that suggestion that men charged with rape should not necessarily be able to use the defence of consent.



Marking time: Regimental Sergeant Major Mason, in charge of the ceremonies in Downing Street surrounding the arrival of President Kuchma of Ukraine yesterday, displays a familiar characteristic of those of his calling. Accompanied by an officer in mufti, he checks that everything is going absolutely to schedule

Au pair's killer is jailed for life

A sex attacker was jailed for life yesterday for the murder of an au pair. Darren Smith, 28, was on home leave from jail for an earlier indecent assault when he strangled Soschita Jungblut, 20, from Switzerland, after a disco in Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

Smith had been serving six years for assaulting a woman after absconding from an earlier sentence for dishonesty. Mr Justice Alliott said at the Old Bailey: "There must be the most anxious consideration given to when a man like you is released again." Miss Jungblut, described as a home-loving churchgoer, had arrived in England only two months earlier.

Ulster troops stay

Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, said yesterday that the Government has no immediate plans to withdraw more troops. Mr Portillo, visiting the Girdwood Barracks in north Belfast, said: "We know that the terrorists have continued to collate data on targets. Therefore we need to keep our guard up in case there is a resumption of violence."

BT payout

A BT worker has accepted £300,000 compensation after a five-year battle over back injuries suffered in an accident as he climbed a pole. Steve Crawley, 39, of Ashton, Preston, had been refused an elevating platform. BT declined to comment on claims that it hired private detectives to follow the injured worker and his wife for seven weeks despite medical evidence.

MP's son banned

Benjamin Butcher, 19, son of John Butcher, Conservative MP for Coventry South West, who crashed his father's Jaguar car into traffic lights while more than twice over the drink-drive limit, was placed on probation for 12 months, banned from driving for two years and ordered to do 100 hours' community service by magistrates at Solihull.

Cost of crime

Crime is costing shops and manufacturing industries more than £1 billion a year, according to a Home Office study published yesterday. An estimated 8.6 million crimes were carried out against retailers with 5.8 million being thefts from shops, off-licences and other retail premises, costing retailers £780 million a year and manufacturers £275 million.

Clear winner

The Times has the clearest news reports among national newspapers, according to the Plain English Campaign, which makes its annual awards in London today. Chrissie Maher, campaign director, said: "There is still too much bad reporting in some newspapers, but we were very impressed with the consistently high standard *The Times* sets for itself."

Icon sale record

A Byzantine icon *The Nativity of Christ*, regarded by the art world as the most important to be offered at auction, fetched a record £265,500 at Christie's in London yesterday. The panel shows the Virgin Mary reclining at the mouth of a cave housing the infant Jesus in his crib. The sale of 42 Greek and Russian icons fetched more than £750,000.

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Schools inspector accused of bias as pamphlet backs Tory policies

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION EDITOR

CHRIS WOODHEAD, the Chief Inspector of Schools, was accused yesterday of straying into the political arena with a pamphlet published by a right-wing think-tank in which he questioned the need for local education authorities and doubted the value of extra funding for schools.

Mr Woodhead, who leads the Office for Standards in Education, has courted controversy with outspoken criticisms of teaching standards. Launching a debate on schools for the new think-tank Politeia, he repeated his view that up to 15,000 teachers should be sacked, and traditional teaching methods restored.

However, the intervention of the chief inspector in a debate which divides Conservative MPs surprised observers. Proposals for all state schools to become grant-maintained are being considered for the Conservative election manifesto, but have been resisted by influential figures on both wings of the party, as well as by the Opposition.

Mr Woodhead suggested that local education authorities might breed a "dependency culture" in head teachers, undermining the leadership qualities needed to raise standards. Without coming down in favour of their abolition, he asked whether LEA services could not be provided equally well by commercial agencies.

The support and advisory role of local authorities is central to Labour's policy outlined last week for raising standards, but Mr Woodhead questioned whether they had any contribution to make to failing schools. Sceptics, he said, "reject the notion that the school's survival depends on ready access to LEA intensive care and doubt the wisdom of targeting finite resources in this way on what ought to be recognised as the terminally ill".

Both Labour and the Liberal Democrats accused Mr Woodhead of engaging in partisan political debate. Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat education spokesman, said: "Chris Woodhead has finally proved that he is off his trolley, tying himself to the failing Tory party."

Mr Foster was stung by an apparent reference to the Liberal Democrats' pledge to raise income tax by a penny to spend more on education. Mr Woodhead asked in his pamphlet: "Would a decision to find, say, an extra billion for education necessarily cause standards to rise? The answer is, of course, that it would not."

☐ *A Question of Standards: Finding the Balance* (Politeia, 28 Charing Cross, London WC2H 0DB; £5)

Costs of living that cannot be equalled

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE Halifax Building Society led the way yesterday to cheaper mortgages by cutting interest rates to the lowest level since 1966.

For many that year is best remembered for England's World Cup victory at Wembley against West Germany. Average weekly earnings were £20.31 for men and £10.07 for women, and the state pension for single people was £4 a week.

The average price of a house was £4,080 and the average mortgage borrowed from a bank or building society was £2,324. The basic rate of tax started at 41.25 per cent and rose to 91.25 per cent. The bank base rate was 7 per cent and inflation was at slightly more than 4 per cent.

Twenty-nine years ago a pint of beer cost the equivalent of less than 9p, a pint of milk 4p, and 20 cigarettes 23p. The price of an Austin Mini £478 and of a Rolls-Royce £10,000. The second-class rail fare from London to Birmingham was £3.02.

The Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, was returned to power with an increased majority at a general election in March. In July, the number of people out of work and claiming benefit was 258,233.

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Clarke cuts rate

Continued from page 1

dragging its feet on every one. It is becoming a bit of a farce." He said that the Government will be lucky to achieve 2 per cent growth next year, let alone the 3 per cent it predicted in the Budget.

The move by the Halifax was an unexpected bonus. It shaved a further 0.25 per cent off its basic mortgage rate to 7.49 per cent, taking it to its lowest level since May 1966. The new lower rates apply immediately to new borrowers and from February 1 for existing customers. The two cuts together represent a monthly saving of around £15 for a borrower with a £50,000 mortgage.

Downing Street sources said that the cut in interest rates, together with rising High Street sales and another fall in unemployment, was a triple whammy for the Government and a boost for the Prime Minister on the eve of the European Summit in Madrid at the weekend.

The volume of retail sales grew by 0.6 per cent in November after very weak spending figures in the past few months. Headline unemployment fell by 20,400 to a four and a half year low of 2,244,500 in November, the 27th consecutive monthly fall, an achievement which the Government said reflected its policies for a flexible and deregulated labour market.

But Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, said that the base rate cut was a reflection of economic weakness, not strength.

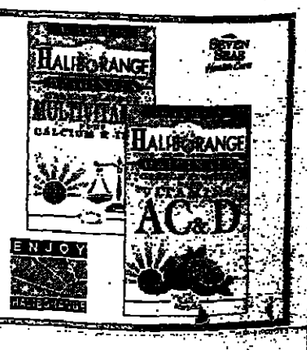
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CORRECTION

Yesterday's report of the trial of Stephen Wilkinson, who denies murdering Nikki Conroy, wrongly described Dr Laurence Naismith, a consultant psychiatrist, as a defence witness; in fact, he was giving evidence for the prosecution. Dr Naismith said on Tuesday that he believed the accused had paranoid psychosis and that "this did substantially diminish his responsibility for his actions".

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'These people need to be looked after in secure hospitals, not allowed to roam the streets'

Community care is not working, says stabbed GP's wife

By Joanna Bale

THE wife of a doctor who was stabbed in his surgery has criticised the Government's Care in the Community policy after learning that his alleged attacker had been freed from a psychiatric hospital. Maria Caseiro had been placed in bed and breakfast accommodation after being discharged from 15 months' detention.

Dr Tony Inwald's wife, Naomi, said yesterday: "What has been happening is that this Government has pursued a policy of community care for mentally ill patients which doesn't always work. Care in the Community is not effective. Many of these people need to be looked after by professionals in secure hospitals, not allowed to roam the streets."

Mrs Inwald, speaking from her home in Highgate, north London, said that the Home Secretary's new policy of tightening the law on knives would not do any good.

"How would it be implemented? It is not just knives that they carry but also screwdrivers and other sharp instruments," she said.





Dr Inwald, who was "stable" in hospital after he was stabbed going to the aid of Dr Sharpey-Schafer

Her criticism was echoed by doctors in the surgery at Archway, north London, where the stabbing took place on Tuesday evening.

Dr Judith Sharpey-Schafer, to whose aid Dr Inwald went when she pressed a panic button in her surgery, said there were shortcomings in the way Care in the Community had been implemented. She added: "This awful happening illustrates the difficulties for GPs."

She said she was going to visit Dr Inwald at Whittington Hospital. "I am going to thank him for saving my life and endangering his own. The other doctors and receptionists were also very brave in overcoming the woman. The police and ambulance services came quickly and were really helpful and responsive in a difficult situation."

As staff at the St Johns Way medical centre met to review security yesterday, another GP, Dr Ivor Robinson, said: "We have never had anyone with a knife before, although we have had written and verbal threats and physical assaults. Our impression is that there is an increasing workload with patients discharged into the community.

ROBIN MAYES



Mrs Inwald, with her daughter Jacqueline, 26, relieved that Dr Inwald is recovering after the attack at his practice

"The health cuts and the provision to care for people doesn't seem adequate. A number of psychiatric nurses, day centres and support services are not enough. It is only when it happens so close to you that you are reminded of your own vulnerability."

Ms Caseiro allegedly stabbed Dr Inwald, 59, in the chest when he went to his colleague's aid. He was given first aid by colleagues and then by paramedics. He was yesterday described as "stable" in hospital after receiving stitches to a chest wound.

His son David, 30, a paediatrician at St Bartholomew's Hospital, said his father was sitting up in bed and talking. He said: "It has been a very worrying time but it is a relief to know he is safe. We are all very upset by this."

As patients called in to the surgery to inquire about the doctor yesterday, Lesley Harding, the practice manager, told them: "He is fine and he has still got his sense of humour about him. We hope he will back to work soon." She added later: "Unfortunately, this is what the doctors are facing every day. Doctors are not getting the support they need and they really are in the front line. We never turn patients away from here and we do not keep statistics on how many Care in the Community patients we have."

Ms Caseiro had arrived for an appointment at the surgery at 6.30pm, when the incident occurred. She registered with Dr Sharpey-Schafer a month ago after being released from hospital.

She lived near the surgery in Krystals bed-and-breakfast hotel, a hostel for the homeless located above a travel agent's shop in Upper Holloway, run by the landlady's son. Ms Caseiro's landlady said yesterday: "She had only been here a month so I didn't get to know her too well. All the social workers told me was that she was a nice, quiet girl who had been in hospital."

THE WEEKEND STARTS HERE



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IN THE TIMES



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Changed way of life for family born to medicine

By Joanna Bale

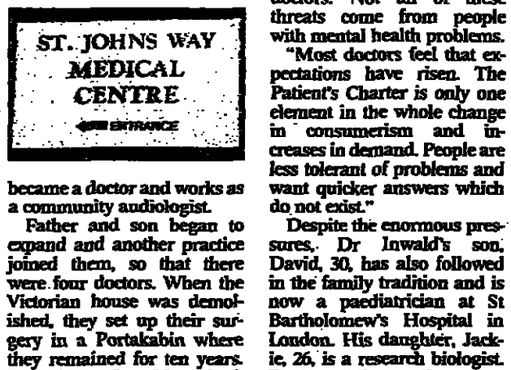
THE large, purpose-built surgery where Dr Anthony Inwald was attacked is just along the road from his childhood home, where his father ran a one-man practice.

Dr Philip Inwald, who died in 1978, began working there in the 1930s when Archway was populated by middle-class families living in elegant Victorian houses. In those pre-NHS days, Dr Inwald Snr carried a Gladstone bag on home visits and was a respected pillar of the community. His wife Esther, who died nine years ago, was his receptionist.

The surgery was on the ground floor of their Victorian home at 57 St John's Way. It was unheard of for them to encounter the aggression and violence which are commonplace in the present surgery, on the edge of a 1970s red-brick council estate. The house was demolished to make way for flats on the estate.

Dr Inwald's wife, Naomi, said: "My father-in-law was like my husband, a very kind, quiet man who was a gentle, excellent doctor." Dr Inwald Snr was awarded the MBE for his bravery in digging out and saving local people during the Blitz. Mrs Inwald, a dental hygienist, added: "He was a very brave man but he was far too modest to talk about it."

Anthony Inwald joined his father's practice at the beginning of the 1960s when he graduated from medical school. His sister Joan also became a doctor and works as a community audiologist.

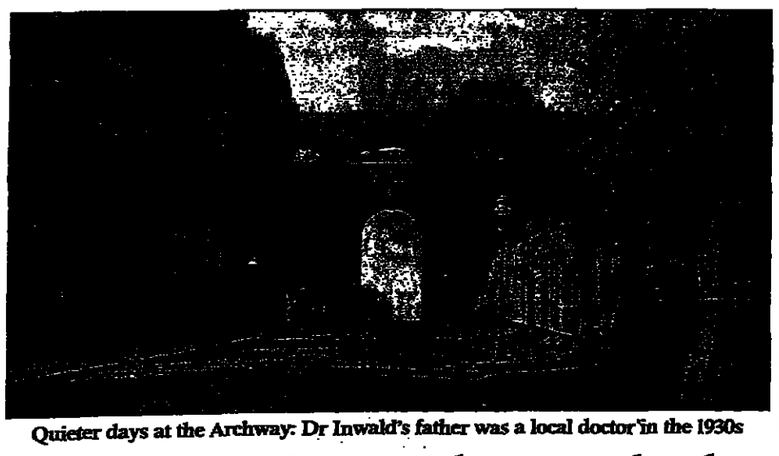


Father and son began to expand and another practice joined them, so that there were four doctors. When the Victorian house was demolished, they set up their surgery in a Portakabin where they remained for ten years. Dr Philip Inwald retired, another doctor joined in his place, and the four moved into their present premises in 1978. Within months they were forced to put padlocks and steel grilles on the windows after attacks from vandals and burglars. Panic buttons were installed in 1991.

One doctor, Ivor Robinson, who has been a partner since 1972, said: "We are quite often verbally and physically threatened nowadays. We are a large practice with seven doctors. Not all of these threats come from people with mental health problems.

"Most doctors feel that expectations have risen. The Patient's Charter is only one element in the whole change in consumerism and increases in demand. People are less tolerant of problems and want quicker answers which do not exist."

Despite the enormous pressures, Dr Inwald's son, David, 30, has also followed in the family tradition and is now a paediatrician at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London. His daughter, Jackie, 26, is a research biologist. Doctors at the practice met to review security arrangements yesterday.



Quieter days at the Archway: Dr Inwald's father was a local doctor in the 1930s

Psychiatrist's plea to halt discharge was overruled

By Adrian Lee

THE woman accused of stabbing a doctor at his surgery was released from a mental hospital less than three weeks ago. Maria Caseiro, 29, was being treated at St Bernard's Hospital in Ealing, west London, before her release on November 24 by a Mental Health Review Tribunal.

She was transferred to St Bernard's in August but had been receiving treatment for 15 months at other hospitals. Miss Caseiro appealed against the order, which was keeping her in hospital against her will.

Her psychiatrist argued for a "delayed discharge", which would have meant continued treatment and supervision at a community centre. He was overruled by the review tribunal, composed of a doctor, a lawyer and a lay person.

A spokesman for the West London Healthcare NHS Trust, which runs St Bernard's, said yesterday: "She was being treated for a personality disorder and her condition had stabilised. She had already been on unescorted leave from the hospital."

Miss Caseiro had a history of self-harm but had never threatened others. She does not have a criminal record. She was treated at St Bernard's in an open ward. An Enfield hospital had earlier regarded her as a medium risk and kept her in a locked ward.

The trust spokesman said: "The [tribunal] ruling meant she was discharged and she left our care with a social worker." Attempts were made by Camden and Islington Council to place Miss Caseiro in a hostel specialising in those with mental problems. But it was full and the council sent her to the Kystalls Hotel in Holloway, north London.

The Department of Social Security paid for her bed and breakfast accommodation and she was visited two or three times a week by a social worker. Efforts were made to provide Miss Caseiro with counselling and places on an education course and at a day centre. Social workers said she refused all offers of help.

☐ Miss Caseiro was remanded in custody for a week by Highbury Corner magistrates yesterday, charged with causing grievous bodily harm. She was accompanied by a Portuguese interpreter. There was no application for bail.

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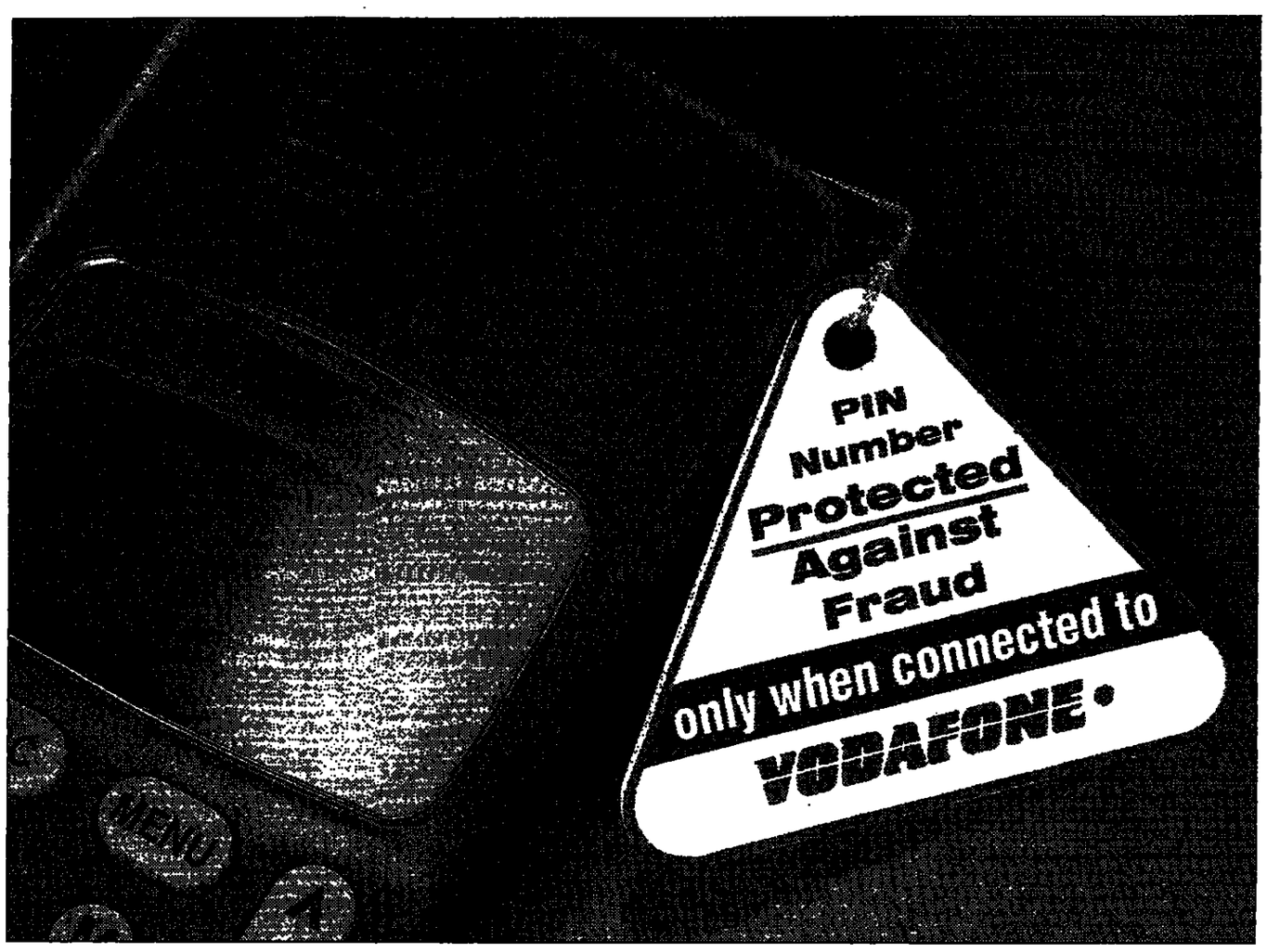
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Kasparov scores chess victory for human race

BY ROBIN YOUNG

GARRY KASPAROV, the world chess champion, yesterday clinched victory over a computer capable of analysing 10 million moves in a minute.

His victory, by 1½ to ½ in a match of two 25-minute games, was regarded as final proof that, in matchplay, mechanical intelligence is not enough to beat human intuition.

For Kasparov it was sweet revenge for a defeat in August 1994 in London, when he was knocked out of the first round of the Intel World Chess Grand Prix by a 90MHz Pentium processor. Since then the Russian had evened the score in Cologne in May, playing against a more powerful 120MHz machine.

Yesterday's decider was against a 150MHz processor running Fritz4, claimed to be the most sophisticated chess computer program. The machine can calculate more than ten million moves a minute, 172,000 every second.

For the match Kasparov, known as the chess world's nattiest dresser, wore a green cashmere jacket, yellow tie and dark trousers. The Pentium processor wore uniform grey. Its operator, Matthias Feist from Hamburg, chose tight grey jeans that exposed pale socks above brown shoes. He looked the very model of a computer nerd.

Herr Feist may have been the decisive player in the first game, for on the ninth move he did an unprecedented thing in man versus machine matchplay: he keyed the wrong move into the computer, making the Pentium speedily block a piece that was not there. The invigilator, Stuart Reuben, was called to the stage at the Conference Forum, east London, where there was an audience of several hundred, and decided that nothing could be done to retrieve the move.

Experts said that Kasparov had won the advantage of a free move in preparing his defence with the black pieces, and he quickly made full use of it. Kasparov was granted his win with 11 minutes still on the clock.

In the second game the Pentium puzzled Kasparov by playing an opening he had himself favoured, with disastrous results, in his world championship struggles with Anatoly Karpov in the 1980s. As play progressed some believed the computer might level the score, and win the right to a blitz-play decider, but the champion held on for the draw.

Maurice Ashley, an American international grandmaster who commentated on the match, said: "Against humans Kasparov can feed off human psychology and his opponents' fear but a computer does not have any psychology. It does not care if it is playing a world champion or a turtle."

Kasparov said: "We were playing very unusual chess. To play against a machine it is best to forget about brilliance and to concentrate on playing exactly the strategy it has been programmed with."

And his next human opponent? "The world chess championship is in such a mess that I cannot tell," said Kasparov, who is still in dispute with the ruling authority Fide. "In that game it is still Fide's move."

Keene on Chess, page 44



Daddies' boys: Winston Churchill, who said all babies looked like him, with his son Randolph; the Prince of Wales with Prince William; and John Lennon with his son Julian

The image of their father . . . but only at the age of one

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

PARENTS' claims that their offspring "look just like them" have proved to be often a groundless boast, but there are noticeable similarities between one-year-old babies and their fathers.

A Californian study found that photographs of children could not be matched with their parents, except for the babies and their dads.

Psychologists recruited 122 volunteers to look at photographs of 24 white parents and children. They studied the child at the ages of one, ten and 20, and tried to match them to three possible mothers and fathers, one of whom was correct.

They were easily able to detect similarities between the children at different ages, and between pictures of their parents taken 20 years apart, showing that distinguishing characteristics were visible in the photographs. But they were unable to match children to parents. The ten and 20-year-old offspring were judged no more similar to their parents than to other adults.

The exception came with the one-year-olds, of either sex. In about half of the tests, the volunteers matched the babies and fathers: the odds against this arising by chance are 200 to one.

The psychologists, Dr Nicholas Christenfeld and Dr Emily Hill of the University of California, San Diego, give an evolutionary explanation for the finding in *Nature*. While a mother who has reared a baby can be sure that it is hers, a father who may not always be around cannot. So a recognisable similarity would be advantageous for the baby, by making the father more likely to acknowledge parentage and invest time in the child.

This would mean that babies who looked like their fathers would be more likely to survive, and perpetuate the genes that led to the similarity. If this is so, the genes responsible for a child's facial appearance may be disproportionately inherited from the father.

But this does not explain what it is about babies' faces that makes them look like their fathers. One possibility is that the features we use to distinguish women's faces, such as the prominence of cheekbones, are invisible in babies.



Ben Needham, left, who disappeared four years ago and the boy taken briefly into custody by Greek police

Mystery boy unlikely to be missing Ben

BY MALCOLM BRADBANT AND PAUL WILKINSON

THE family of Ben Needham, the child believed to have been abductewd in Greece four years ago, suffered more anguish yesterday as hopes faded that a six-year-old boy identifed by a Greek private detective was their son.

Kerry Needham, 23, whose son vanished during a holiday in the Aegean island of Kos four years ago, watched a video yesterday of the boy found by the private detective with gypsies in northern Greece. Afterwards she said: "While I must keep an open mind, I do not truly believe it is Ben. He looks a bit like his dad but his eyes are brown and Ben's eyes were blue. He also does not have a birthmark on the back of his neck."

Last night she was waiting at her home in Sheffield for a call from her parents, Eddie, 47, and Christine, 43, who are back in Kos in a fresh attempt to find the boy. Senior Greek police officers have contacted Ben's grandparents there and asked them to travel to Veroia in northern Greece to check the identity of the "gipsy" boy.

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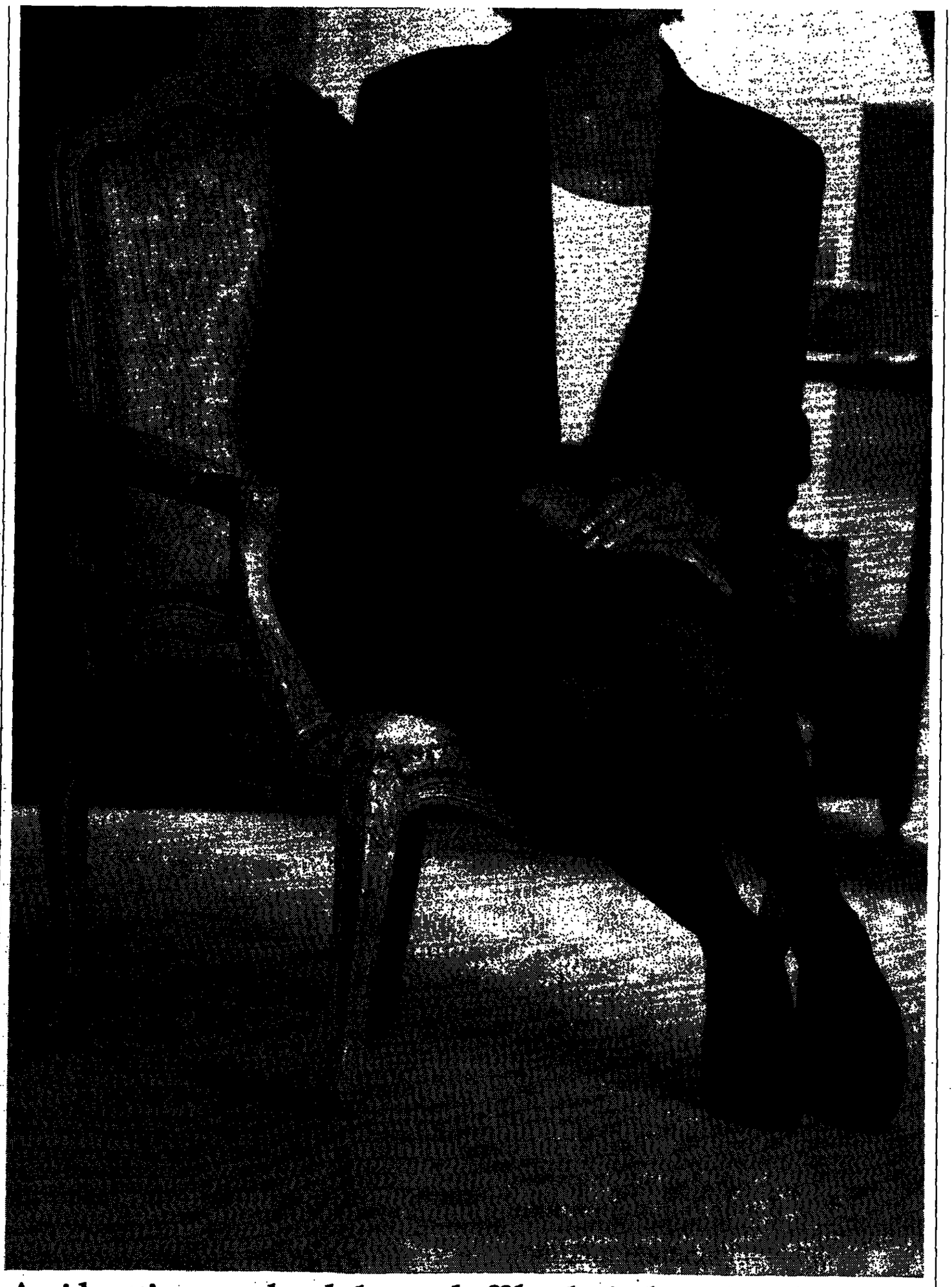
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Avoid getting your head chopped off by the in-laws this Christmas.

What do you give the family that can't resist snapping away at each other? Why, the Olympus AF-10 Mini gift set, naturally. Everything one could possibly need is included in this little Christmas box: camera, carrying case, batteries and colour film. And with auto focus, auto wind and anti-red eye, taking a picture is simplicity itself. In fact, all the in-laws need to do is load, point and shoot. Which, of course, should come as second nature. THE OLYMPUS AF-10 MINI GIFT SET

Brain boy died in ambulance after tour of hospitals

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE parents of a young boy who died of a brain haemorrhage as doctors shuttled him between four hospitals after he suffered a fit may sue the health authorities.

Officials have promised an inquiry into the death of Nicholas Geldard, 10, from Offerton in Greater Manchester. He had to wait 25 minutes for an ambulance after his mother twice dialled 999 and was transferred late at night around three hospitals for a brain scan.

He could not be found a place in an intensive care unit anywhere in Manchester and eventually had to be sent 70 miles in a snow storm across the Pennines to a unit in West Yorkshire. Nicholas died in the ambulance on the way to Leeds General Infirmary 12 hours after collapsing in his bedroom while playing computer games. Yesterday his parents Dave and Cath Geldard, 41, said they were considering legal action.

"I feel very, very angry and have no faith at all in the NHS now. It was diabolical. It makes you afraid of falling ill. You always believe what the doctors tell you and you put your life in their hands, but for this to happen makes us feel sick and disillusioned." Mrs Geldard said.

Mrs Geldard lost another child 12 years ago when her baby Jane Elizabeth died from leukaemia at three months.



Nicholas Geldard: died after suffering a fit

She said: "It was like coming out of a long, black tunnel when Nick was born. We tended to spoil Nick and smother him with love." She has two older children.

The couple's MP, Ann Coffey, said: "The NHS failed this little boy. It isn't the first time we've been without intensive-care beds. It isn't the first time we haven't been able to use a scanner and it isn't the first time people have had to wait for ambulances. Nicholas had to cope with all three of these obstacles. What chance did he have?"

Nicholas collapsed just after 4pm last Thursday. He arrived almost an hour later at Stockport Royal Infirmary, where doctors agreed he should go to the nearby Stepping Hill Hospital for a brain scan. At midnight he suffered a second fit and was transferred to the Hope Hospital in Salford for an emergency scan. He arrived at 2am.

There, staff diagnosed a brain haemorrhage but were unable to find him an intensive-care bed anywhere in Manchester. He was sent to Leeds where he was pronounced dead on arrival at 4am. Mrs Geldard said: "We have to do something about it to stop another child dying. We want some good to come of Nick's death."

Derek Caldwell, chief executive of Stockport Acute Services, which runs Stepping Hill Hospital, said: "Urgent scans can be done at Hope Hospital at any time. You would have to ask the Stockport Healthcare Trust why doctors waited until midnight before sending him for a scan."

Alan Yates, the trust's chief executive, said: "Staff had to decide whether it was in his interest to transfer to a Manchester hospital which has 24-hour scanning or to monitor him on the ward. The decision to keep him on the ward was made after consultation with a specialist at Booth Children's Hospital."

In a joint statement the Stockport Healthcare NHS Trust and Stockport Acute Services NHS Trust said that a preliminary analysis of the facts indicated that good clinical practice had been observed at all times.

Coroner condemns Porsche sales drive that killed three

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SALES demonstration of Porsche cars which ended in the deaths of three people was criticised by a coroner yesterday. An inquest jury returned verdicts of unlawful killing on two of the victims.

Derek Redfern, 57, who was a passenger in a Porsche 911, and Karen Dalley, 22, the driver of a Renault 5, died when the cars collided near the village of Llyswen, Powys. A verdict of accidental death was returned on the Porsche driver, Gavin Shaw, 30, a car salesman. The cars collided near a hotel being used by the Cardiff car dealers Merlin (Cambria) Ltd for a sales promotion in June.

Geraint Williams, the Powys deputy coroner, said after the verdicts had been read at the Brecon inquest: "It is clear to me from evidence that in the Llyswen area Porsches were being driven at astronomically high speeds. A number of people were driving recklessly or dangerously.

"I find it deplorable. There seems to be some sort of group hysteria. It is as obvious as night follows day that people were going to die on that day."

Ms Hilary Sykes, the company secretary of Merlin (Cambria), said after the hearing: "Our company has very clear safety policies. In eight years we have never had any fatalities or injuries."

Long day for Santas but that's ho ho ho business

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THERE was no doubting who was the best Father Christmas in London yesterday. His locks were longer, his beard creamier, his cap furrier, his belt buckle bigger and his blue eyes more twinkling. And he had real reindeer.

Yet for Tom Valent, the American dean of the Santa Claus School in Midland, Michigan, the challenge was tougher than facing the most demanding and cynical ten-year-old. Mr Valent had come to teach British Father Christmases to be more jovial.

On a drizzly London morning under leaden skies, he worked manfully with a bedraggled platoon of some 20 Santas who presented themselves for his inspection. Some had hoods, and some bonnets, some fur-lined jackets and others cloaks. They wore gum boots, rather than sewn leather like Mr Valent's.

One hid his eyes behind polarised glasses and jangled jewellery from his wrist, and another resolutely refused to don his whiskers, preferring to carry them instead. They included a busker from Bath, a black restaurateur from Blackpool, a preacher from Ireland and a bookseller from Milton Keynes.

Several hoped to get employment as Santas, others were already professionally engaged, and a few insisted that they were just doing the course for fun. Several had resorted to body padding, in many cases positioned so far above the belt that it suggested a sex change.

Mr Valent smiled benignly on them all. "Lift and curl your whiskers to make a smiley face", he advised one. "Ho, ho, ho!"

"Ho, ho, ho," responded the student unemphatically.

"Make that more mild and mellow, from right below the belt. Ho, ho, ho! Isn't that great? It's such a lot of fun," Mr Valent chortled cheerily, jingling his sleigh bells. Soon he had the Santas in his classroom practising their "ho, ho, ho" in chorus. Shoulders heaved with enforced jollity, and several false tummies slipped sideways with the effort. Mr Valent's good humour did not falter.

"Never let Santa look anything but happy, jolly and full of fun," he insisted. "Even when a child pulls your beard, make a joke of it."

His class rehearsed reindeers' names, facts about the North Pole, the history of Saint Nick, convincing answers to ticklish questions about the reality of whiskers, and how to convince children that one really could squeeze down chimneys.

As a test of the course's success, Tanya Lacey-Solymar, aged 3½, was ushered in. Gary Davis, at 20 stone and 5ft 2in the most naturally rotund of available Santas, modelled a yellow balloon into a dog for her. Tanya was entranced. Did she believe in Santa? "I believe in them all," she said, eyeing the class in wonder.

After more than two hours, Mr Valent delivered a cheery verdict: "There is nothing wrong with British Father Christmases. Now that I have given them some tips they will perform real well."

ADRIAN BROOKS



Learning the trade from a master: one camera-shy Father Christmas yesterday. "It's such a lot of fun, never look anything but happy and jolly," they were told

Campaign highlights plight of Asian toy workers

BY LIN JENKINS

MANY popular toys bought this Christmas have been made in appalling conditions, according to organisations campaigning for better standards for workers in Asia, where 75 per cent of the toys sold in Britain are made.

The TUC, Catholic Institute for International Relations and World Development Movement claim factories producing toys for the companies who market Barbie and Sindy dolls, Disney characters, Fisher-Price toys, Action Man and Monopoly are failing to meet basic internationally agreed standards.

Researchers say that working conditions in factories subcontracted to produce toys or toy parts are often appalling. Workers, normally women, work a ten-hour day six or seven days a week for poverty wages that do not meet basic needs. They work in conditions dangerous to their health, are prevented from forming unions and often employed on temporary contracts to avoid responsibility for benefits such as holiday or maternity pay. Some of the worst conditions are reported in China and Thailand, where 44 per cent of toys sold in Britain are made.

Researchers visited factories used by leading American toy companies, including Mattel, who make toys for Barbie, Fisher-Price and Disney, and Hasbro, whose products include Sindy, Action Man and Monopoly. They said health and safety standards were inadequate.

The campaigners have been working with the British Toy and Hobby Association and the Toy Manufacturers of Europe to introduce a code for workers. The major manufacturers are American companies and are members of both groups.

The code would include restrictions on working hours, requirements for health and safety and for conditions in factories, with provision for spot checks. Concerns were first raised in 1993 when 188 workers were killed in a fire at a Thai toy factory because the exits were locked.

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Sailors ran up £5,000 phone bill for Navy

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A TEAM of radio operators aboard *HMS Ark Royal* cheated the Royal Navy out of more than £5,000 in telephone calls, a court martial was told yesterday. Thirteen ratings made dozens of calls without paying while the ship was in the Adriatic last year.

Lieutenant-Commander Nick Hawkins told the hearing at *HMS Nelson* in Portsmouth that a logging system on the satellite telephone system was widely abused. The fraud came to light when the final bill for the ship's Inmarsat satellite phone system — used to make private calls — did not match the calls sailors claimed they had made in the log book.

He said 25 calls made by Darren Gray had either been logged incorrectly or not at all. Gray, 28, admitted 23 charges of telephone fraud, one charge of wasting police time and one charge of going absent without leave for 160 days.

The radio operator, from Skelmersdale, Lancashire, was discovered to have made more than £1,000 of unpaid calls to three numbers near Wigan — his sister, a former girlfriend and his cousin.

He was dismissed the service and sentenced to 12 months' detention. His pay was stopped until he had paid £1,049 towards the unpaid telephone bill.

Lieutenant-Commander Stuart Crozier, for Gray, said he had admitted he had been wrong in what he had done. "There were 12 other personnel involved. He was not a leader or instigator in abusing the system."

After the court martial, Lieutenant-Commander Hawkins said that ten other ratings had been dealt with summarily and two still faced court martial proceedings.

He said Gray had failed to return to *HMS Nelson*, where he was based during the investigation into the telephone fraud, in May. He eventually surrendered to police at Skelmersdale on October 10.

Awards salute those 'making Britain a better place to live, work and invest'


ANDRE CAMARA

The Prince's schedule yesterday included a visit to a new £1.2 million health centre in Tower Hamlets, east London, where he met an Asian women's embroidery group

Caring communities earn princely praise

BY JOHN YOUNG

AMID the splendour of St James's Palace, London, the Prince of Wales yesterday thanked the leaders of small and often poor communities throughout Britain who had brought new hope to their fellow citizens.

The Prince was presenting the tenth annual Community Enterprise Awards, sponsored by *The Times* and Touche Ross, the accountants. The top project was a centre that has offered shelter to more than 4,000 homeless young people over ten years.

The Prince told his audience: "My warm thanks go to each of you for your unstinting work in city housing estates, market towns and rural villages. I have the most enormous admiration for all you do. Through your enterprise you are making Britain a better place to live, to work and to invest."

The Prince presented the Charles Douglas-Home Award — named after a former editor of *The Times* — to the Old Chapel Housing and Community Trust in Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. A total of 11 category winners received plaques and cheques. The competition was entered by 575 projects. Other award winners include a gardening project for former psychiatric patients.

Jean Yeomans, who founded the Old Chapel trust in 1985, accepted a £2,500 cheque. The trust offers practical and emotional support, including accommodation, to homeless teenagers.

Mrs Yeomans said: "I understand how it feels to be vulnerable. By the time I was five, both my Dad and Mum were dead. I had an older sister who looked after us, but it wasn't easy. It is so important to show you care.

"The young people here need to know they are secure and valued. I suppose I treat them as my own and they stay here as long as it takes. The prize money will either be used for running and refurbishment costs or towards rebuilding the youth centre."

Old Chapel runs an eight-bedroom hostel and four three-bedroom houses, all run on family lines. At present, it has 35 residents who became homeless because of family, health or alcohol problems.

The Prince yesterday gave another helping hand to local enterprise when he opened a shop in King's Road, Chelsea, stocked entirely by businesses started with grants and loans from his Youth Business Trust.

Leading article, page 21
Winning projects, page 22


Jean Yeomans receiving the Charles Douglas-Home Award for the Old Chapel Housing and Community Trust that helps youngsters in Nottinghamshire

Prince to tell MPs of charity successes

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Prince of Wales has invited 34 MPs to St James's Palace today to tell them of his success in tackling social problems that have been the despair of governments.

The Prince, figurehead of a group of charities which have a turnover of £30 million a year and employ 350 full-time staff and 7,000 volunteers, will underline to his all-party guests that his low-profile approach to the problems of inner cities and youth unemployment has a better record of success than government agencies.

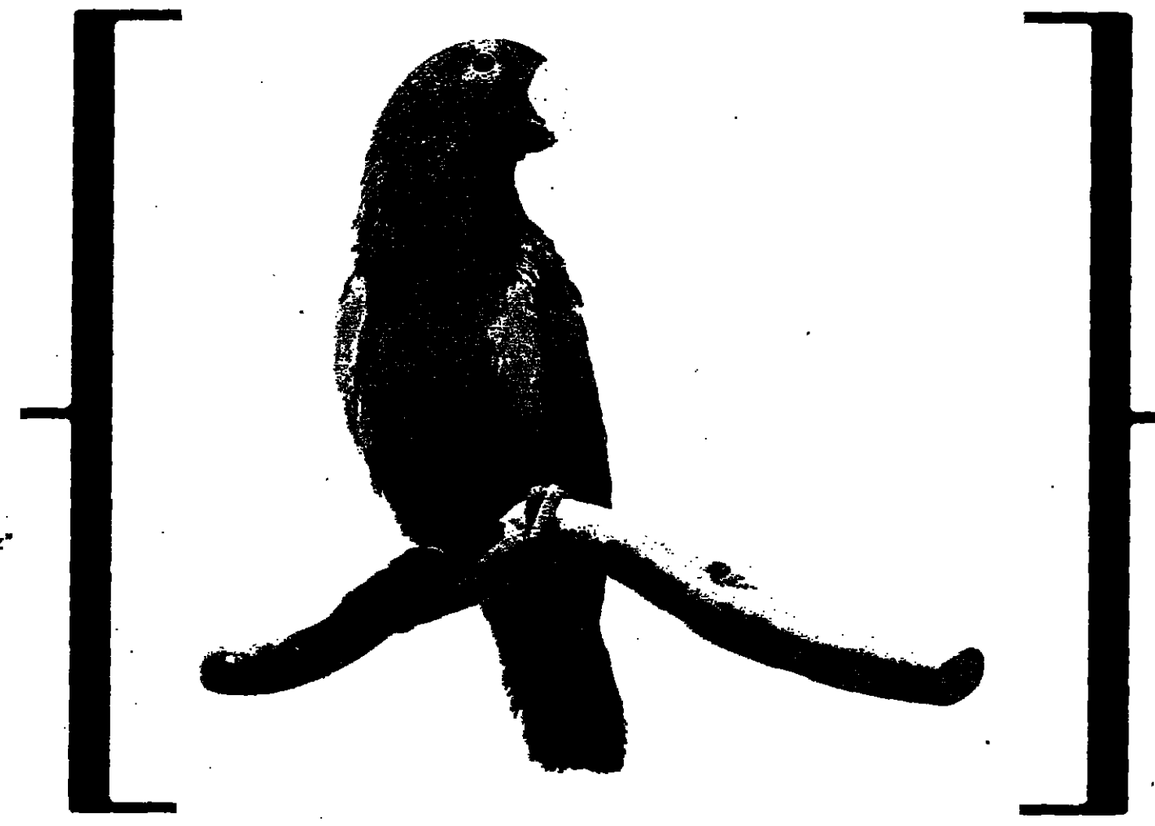
The Prince's staff angrily denied suggestions yesterday that the meeting was a public relations attempt to recapture the high ground of social concern from the Princess of Wales, who of late has enjoyed much publicity for her involvement in charity work for the homeless and the terminally ill.

Invitations to the MPs were issued in July, and the Prince held a similar meeting last December to give MPs with a particular interest an annual report on the work of the Prince's Trusts.

"The Prince is not trying to make any political points here; he is continuing existing contacts with MPs who have an interest in his own areas of concern, and bringing them up to date with the very practical help which his charities are providing, particularly to unemployed young people and in inner city areas," a royal spokesman said yesterday.

The MPs invited to St James's Palace include two ministers, James Paice, the junior Education Minister responsible for youth training, and Baroness Blatch, the Home Office Minister responsible for the voluntary sector. Other MPs expected to be present include Clare Short, the Shadow Transport Secretary, Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, and Liz Lynne, the Liberal Democrat spokeswoman on social security.

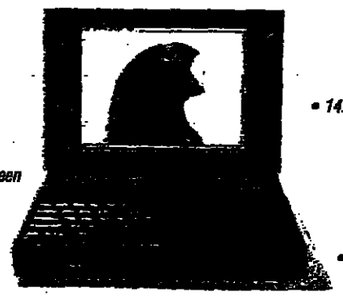

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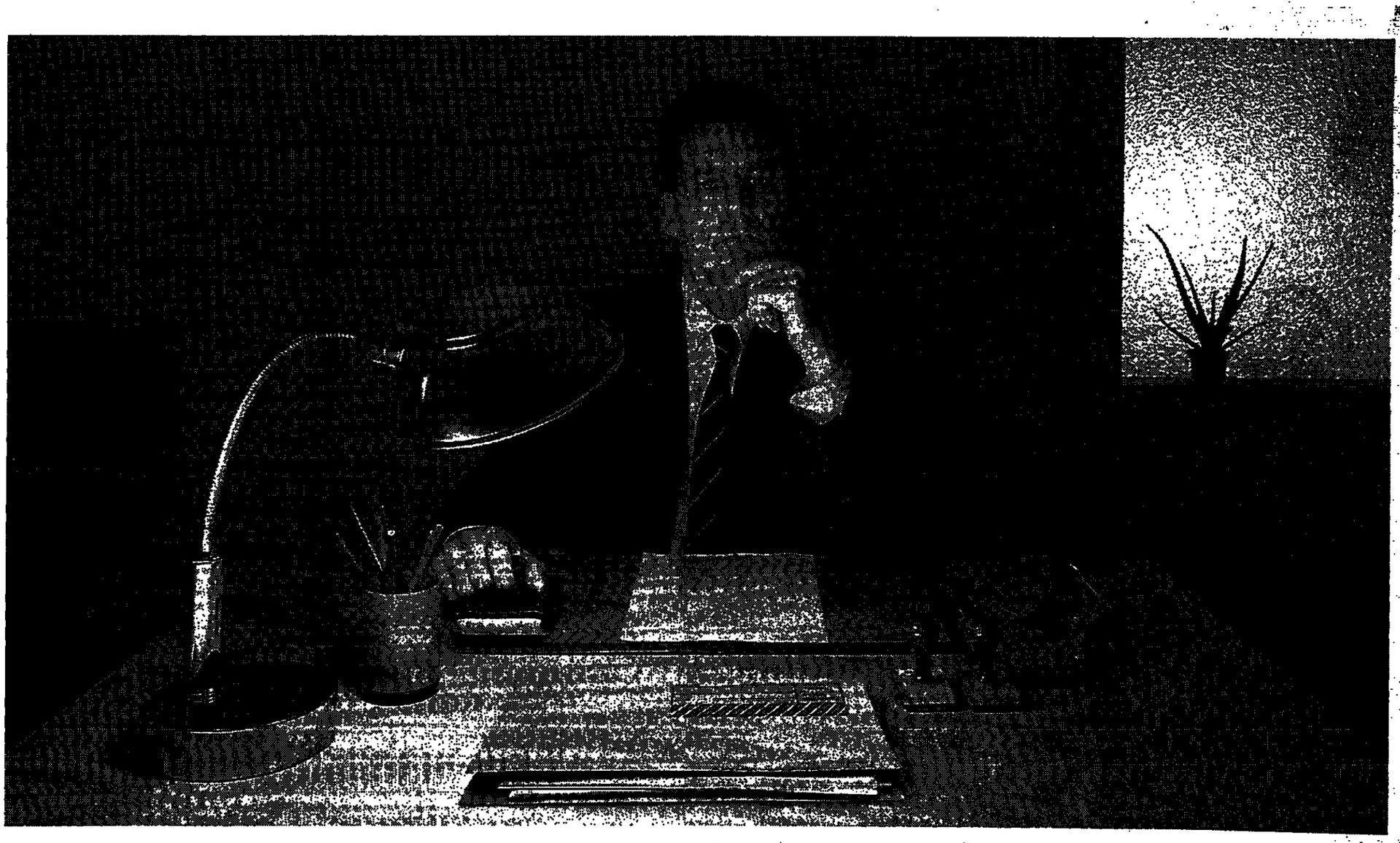
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Lord Chief Justice rules that a jury must consider new medical evidence on battered wife

Thornton faces retrial after appeal quashes conviction

By Russell Jenkins and Richard Ford

SARA THORNTON is to stand trial again for the murder of her violent and drunken husband after the Court of Appeal quashed her conviction yesterday.

Mrs Thornton had served five years for stabbing her husband Malcolm, 44, with a carving knife while he lay in a drunken stupor. The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, said fresh medical evidence showing she had a personality disorder and was suffering from "battered woman syndrome" should be considered by a jury.

Mrs Thornton's lawyers had asked the appeal court not to order a retrial but to reduce her murder conviction, which carries an automatic life sentence, to manslaughter on the ground of provocation.

The 38-year-old mother, who left the court surrounded by supporters, faces a two-week trial in Birmingham early in the new year. She will remain on bail until then.

The Court of Appeal's decision was criticised by relatives of Malcolm Thornton, who dispute his third wife's portrayal of him as an abusive alcoholic. But since the first nine-day trial at Birmingham Crown Court in 1990, the case has become a *cause célèbre* for feminist groups which have campaigned for changes in the law's treatment of women who kill after years of abuse.

Mrs Thornton's counsel, Michael Mansfield, QC, argued during the two-day hearing that the battered wife syndrome and personality disorder had made her susceptible to a "sudden loss of self-control". It was said that had this evidence been produced at the original trial, the jury would have been directed to consider whether a reasonable woman with these characteristics might have lost her self-control and acted as Mrs Thornton did.

Lord Taylor, sitting with Mr Justice Hidden and Mrs Justice Ebsworth, said that if the trial judge had heard the evidence and had the assistance of subsequent legal rulings which had clarified the law on provocation, he would have directed the jury accordingly.

"We are firmly of the view that the question whether the appellant did lose or may have lost her self-control at the time of this killing is essentially a matter for a jury to decide. It is not for us," Lord Taylor said. "We consider the public interest requires that issue to be determined." He added that, despite lawyers' objections that a retrial would not be fair because of publicity about the case, the public interest required the issue to be determined. The judges were confident that a fresh jury would "be able fairly to try the case solely on the evidence they hear".

Mrs Thornton, of Atherstone, Warwickshire, showed little reaction as Lord Taylor read out the ruling, but there were subs and hugs from her supporters. Angela McNeil, of Justice for Women, said: "We are pleased that her conviction has been quashed but we had hoped she would go free. She has already served five years in prison, so it is terrible to put her through a retrial."

Jean Murray, sister of the dead man, said: "I am glad that if the original decision could not be upheld there is to be a retrial, so a jury will be able to consider all the facts again. I know it is going to be very hard." Ann Jones, Mr Thornton's second wife, said: "I would like her back in jail. If they do the whole trial and find her not guilty, it will be a waste of taxpayers' money." Mr Thornton's son, Martin, said: "I feel very shaky. I am devastated. I just want an end to it all." Mrs Thornton has been on bail since the Home Secretary referred the case back to the appeal court in July. Her first appeal was dismissed in July 1991.

Mrs Thornton, who has a daughter, was kept in the court cells for two hours yesterday while the paperwork for her two sureties of £5,000 each was checked. It emerged in court that one surety had been put up by Jennifer Nadel, the ITN home affairs editor.

Ms Nadel has written a book about Mrs Thornton and has worked on a documentary about her to be screened on Channel 4. The programme will not be broadcast until after the second trial. A statement from ITN said that Ms Nadel, who is on maternity leave, had made a personal decision to stand surety.

"The solicitors approached Jennifer in the absence of anyone else standing surety and thereby enabled Mrs Thornton to benefit from the court's decision to grant her bail." A spokeswoman could not say when ITN had been made aware of Ms Nadel's surety. Asked whether it compromised her position as a journalist, the spokeswoman said: "It is totally her own money and is a personal decision."

Law report, page 42



SIMON WALKER

Sara Thornton, left, arriving at court yesterday. She had hoped to have her murder conviction reduced to manslaughter

Radical feminist group ready to fight for more wronged women



Emma Humphries: killed her violent boyfriend

By Richard Ford
HOME CORRESPONDENT

AS SARA THORNTON left court yesterday, a small group of radical feminists who campaigned for her release were mobilising support for the next case they intend to fight.

The pressure group Justice for Women is seeking an appeal for Josephine Smith, 33, serving life for murdering her husband. She claims that she killed him after long-term abuse.

Justice for Women has been in the forefront of a series of campaigns to highlight alleged legal injustices to women. It has eclipsed the Southall Black Sisters and George Delf, a writer, who both initially took up Thornton's case. The organisation helped in the case of Kiranjit Ahluwhalia, who served three years for murdering her violent husband but was freed at a retrial after a plea of guilty to manslaughter was accepted.

This summer it was behind the successful appeal by Emma Humphries, who was freed when judges ruled she had been wrongly convicted of murdering her violent boyfriend. For the first time it was established that a defence of provocation can succeed if there is a series of incidents over time which drive a woman to murder.

Justice For Women was founded in 1991 and is run from a house in Crouch End, north London, on a tight budget. Finance is provided by £500 subscriptions taken out by supporters and fundraising events at the Conway Hall in central London. Apart from two grants of £3,000 from a little known trust, the organisation has not sought money from central or local government.

Men can become affiliated members but it is a women-only group, helping them organise and claim the credit for combating violence against women. "This is an organisation about domestic violence and domestic violence is about male violence," a spokeswoman said.

Its key figures are Julie Bindel, a graduate in film studies from the University of North London: Harriet Wistrich, a trainee solicitor and Sarah Maguire, a barrister.

Ms Bindel, 33, was until July this year working on a Home Office project studying the policing of domestic violence. She now teaches film studies.

Miss Wistrich, 35, comes from a notable Labour family. Her father Ernest Wistrich was a former Labour parliamentary candidate and his wife Enid was formerly head of the Greater London Council's censorship unit. Miss Maguire, who worked for three years for Lambeth Council in a unit monitoring domestic violence, is a member of the chambers of Michael Mansfield, QC, who is representing Thornton in her appeal.

Miss Bindel said: "We cannot take up each case but we believe there are at least 50 women serving life sentences whose cases should be looked at again."

She is now preparing to campaign for an appeal for Josephine Smith, married with three children, who shot her husband Brian while he was asleep at their home in King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Her plea of guilty on the ground of diminished responsibility was rejected and the judge recommended that she serve a minimum of 12 years for murder.

Jail move for IRA man with cancer

An IRA prisoner suffering from skin cancer was moved from England to Northern Ireland yesterday to ease family visits. Paddy Kelly, 44, who is serving 25 years for plotting an explosion and for the attempted murder of a police officer, was given a six-month transfer to Lisburn, Co Antrim. His home is in Co Laois, in the Irish Republic.

Funfair charge

Pat Evans, 73, the owner of the Coney Beach leisure area at Porthcawl, Mid Glamorgan, is to be prosecuted for allegedly failing to ensure the safety of visitors, following the death last year of Tim Morgan, 9, when a waterchute ride car crashed into a lighting gantry.

College pays out

Alan Bryans, 43, a Belfast-born lecturer awarded record compensation of £29,971 for a series of racist taunts, is to receive more money. Northumberland College of Arts and Technology has settled a claim of constructive dismissal out of court.

Lesson learnt

A learner lorry driver was banned for two years by magistrates at Pontypool, Gwent, for being over the alcohol limit during a lesson. John Morgan, David Maliphant's instructor, smelt his breath and directed him down a road to a police station.

Quads born

Helen Jones, 27, of Bootle, Liverpool, has given birth to four daughters, weighing between 3lb 11oz and 4lb 11oz, by Caesarean section at Fazakerley Hospital. They were conceived without fertility treatment and all are doing well.

Cat calls

A six-year-old Burmese cat named Cagney, which has a habit of wandering off, has been issued with its own BT charge card number for its collar, so that people who find it can make free calls to alert the owner, Beryl Venters, 66, of Winchester, Hampshire.

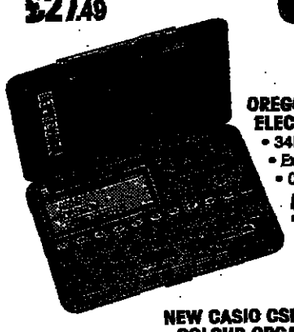
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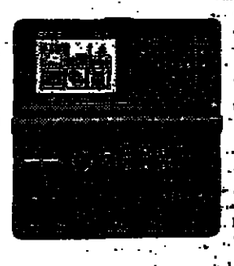
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Tory Euro-rebels threaten revolt on fisheries policy

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government faces an embarassing rebellion in the Commons on Tuesday with at least ten Tory MPs threatening to defy it on a vote over the European fisheries policy.

The vote will be the first test of the Government's reduced majority of five after the death of Sir David Lightbown on Tuesday. Technically the Government would be defeated if only three Tory MPs rebelled, provided that the opposition parties turned out in full and voted together.

However, Tory business managers, who have applied a three-line whip, hope that many Labour and Ulster Unionist MPs will be away so that any rebellion will have little effect.

Eight Euro-rebels and a handful of other MPs are planning to table an amendment to Tuesday's debate, which will cover the common fisheries policy among other issues. The amendment will call on the Government to pledge in its election manifesto that Britain will resume control of its fishing waters — in effect abandoning the Common Fisheries Policy.

Their amendment is unlikely to be called, but the MPs, who include many of the former "whipless rebels", said yesterday that they would vote against the Government or back a Labour amendment if the Government failed to agree to their terms.

The vote could prove a repeat of a similar division in January over the European fisheries policy, when nine rebels voted against the Government, which was saved from defeat only by a split among the Ulster Unionists. Yesterday one of the leading Euro-rebels declared: "We voted against the Government last January and nothing has changed between then and now, so there is no reason why we should not do the same."

Last night Labour confirmed that it would table an amendment criticising the Government's negotiating stance on the common fisheries policy. The amendment will be drafted to attract the support of potential Tory rebels.

Gavin Strang, Shadow Minister of Food, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, claimed that a government defeat would benefit the fishing industry. "Conservative division and isolation in Europe have damaged our fishing industry," he said. "The agreement reached by the Fisheries Council last Christmas was a disaster from the standpoint of the UK fishing industry. It poses an unacceptable threat to the future of our fishing communities and will cause an unsustainable increase in the pressure upon the fish stocks in these sensitive waters."

Government business managers are sufficiently worried about the vote to have changed the date from Monday night to Tuesday night. The decision followed a meeting yesterday morning between five of the Euro-rebels and Tony Baldry, the Fisheries Minister.

Insiders said that the vote had been moved to Tuesday to try to wrong foot Labour and Ulster Unionist MPs who might have been planning to go away early for the Commons recess, which starts on Wednesday evening. Official sources denied this.

Mr Baldry agreed to see Christopher Gill, Richard Shepherd, Richard Body, James Wilkinson and Tony Marlow after Mr Gill has complained about the Government's failure to address their concerns. But Mr Baldry rejected all their demands, insisting that the government had agreed to the common fisheries policy and had no plans to change its stand.

Tamworth braced for political change

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

TAMWORTH, birthplace of the modern Conservative Party, was yesterday mourning the loss of its MP, Sir David Lightbown.

Since Sir Robert Peel gave his famous Tamworth manifesto to the citizens in the market place more than 150 years ago, this pocket of the Midlands has prided itself on its true blue allegiance. But after Sir David's death on Tuesday, his Staffordshire South East constituency, with its 7,192 majority, looks almost certain to join Labour for the first time.

Sir David's dominant personality was widely credited for having held Tamworth and its outlying farming villages together. He had been MP only since 1983 but as a county councillor, chairman of the district council and managing director of Jaybee Engineering, he was as well known and liked.

While John Major faces a possible parliamentary majority of only three after the new year, grassroots Tories in the constituency face a humiliating by-election defeat. At the Tory headquarters in Tamworth yesterday, Ronald Cook, the chairman, arrived ashen-faced. The Christmas party and ladies' tea had to be cancelled — should Christmas cards still be sent out? And he had lost a close friend of 20 years. He could not contemplate a by-election yet.

"I just keep thinking how furious David would be knowing that his death was putting the party majority in jeopardy. He was an old-fashioned loyalist and he was a passionate Tory," he said.

The secretary pointed to a photo of Mr Lightbown dressed in a top hat and waving a wand, his uniform as Vice-Chamberlain. "Anyone less like a fairy is hard to imagine. He didn't fear anyone but he was very gentle to us." Everyone in the office enjoyed telling stories of Sir David's days in the whips' office as The Terminator. They recalled how he threatened to turn journalists' glasses into contact lenses and would manhandle recalcitrant MPs.

Bev Booth, chairman of the local branch, said: "David was a bit like a tank. When the going got tough here, we all got behind him."

Local Tories are privately acknowledging that this could be another Tory fiasco. In 30 years Tamworth has almost tripled in size from a quaint market town to a sprawling outpost of Birmingham, studded with tower blocks. Surrounded by motorways, it has attracted new light industries and a young, more Blairite population.

The Tories failed to win any seats in May's election to Tamworth Borough Council. Labour has been gearing up for the seat since its narrow defeat in 1992. At the borough council meeting on Tuesday night, Labour councillors joined in a minute's silence in memory of Sir David. But the tributes cannot conceal the party's political calculations. A good result is crucial for new Labour to prove that it has won over Middle England.

Obituary, page 23



Tamworth Tories: Sir David and his illustrious forerunner, Sir Robert Peel

MPs back move to tighten knife law

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

MPs yesterday backed a new Bill that aims to tighten the law against carrying knives.

Both Labour and the Liberal Democrats welcomed the move but called for even tougher controls. Some MPs, however, cautioned against bringing forward poorly drafted legislation in a "knee-jerk reaction" to the fatal stabbing of the headmaster Philip Lawrence last week.

The Offensive Weapons Bill, sponsored by Lady Olga Maitland (C, Sutton and Cheam), received its first reading without a vote. The measure, one of several Private Member's Bills introduced yesterday, would enable police to arrest anyone carrying an offensive weapon or knife in public without good reason. They can make an arrest now only if they have a warrant.

The penalty for carrying a knife would also be increased from a £1,000 fine to six months in prison. Carrying an offensive weapon is already punishable with a maximum two-year prison sentence.

Fresh calls for tougher measures have come from all parties after Mr Lawrence's death. Yesterday Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, suggested that the maximum two-year sentence for possession of an offensive weapon could be doubled to four years.

Benefit system hit by organised crime

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

CRIMINAL groups are increasingly defrauding the benefits system, according to the independent watchdog for council spending.

The Audit Commission says in a report today that not only is the value and number of reported frauds rising "but there is increasing evidence of organised, sophisticated crime, with groups intent on defrauding claimant systems and on committing other types of fraud".

The survey, based on replies from 95 per cent of local authorities, found that the value of identified fraud increased from £34 million in 1993-94 to £46 million last year and the number of cases rose from 83,000 to 112,000. The commission says it does not know to what extent the growth is due to better detection and to what extent it is due to a genuine increase.

Although the commission found councils are getting better at detecting fraud, it criticises them for being disappointingly slow in implementing its three-year-old suggestion to set up independent audit committees. Only 8 per cent of authorities had done this, while 7 per cent of councils had inadequate or total absence of risk assessment.

The vast majority of detected cases involve benefit fraud, which has grown steadily since 1990 to 110,000 cases involving £40 million last year. Fraud by officers or local politicians remains rare, but non-benefit fraud rose by 14 per cent to 2,200 cases involving £6.2 million last year. "The underlying trend in the incidence of fraud is upwards," the report says.

A clampdown on student grant fraud in London succeeded in not only catching more people but in dissuading others from trying to cheat the system. That explains a 43 per cent decrease in the number of such cases over the year.

The commission gives a warning that the coming introduction of vouchers for nursery places will be particularly vulnerable to abuse.

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IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons, debates on the preparation, drafting and publication of Government Bills; working time and family life; reception of BBC Radio Gloucestershire; help for haemophiliacs with hepatitis C; the future of Army Technical Agency Unit in Malvern. After education and employment questions, the Armed Forces Bill had its second reading.

In the Lords: debates on regulation and operation of privatised utilities; the Learmont review of prison security; the Western European Time Bill, committee stage.

TODAY in the Commons: agriculture questions and questions to the Prime Minister. Debates on provision of health services for women with breast cancer, research and the screening programme; financial services regulation.

In the Lords: debates on Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations; Child Support (Compensation for Recipients of Family Credit and Disability Working Allowance) Regulations; Bristol Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order; Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations.

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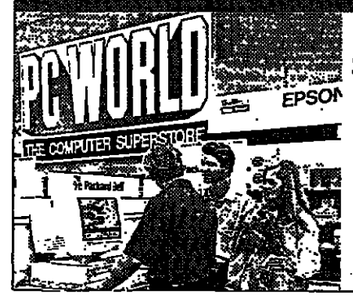
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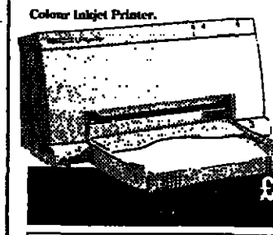


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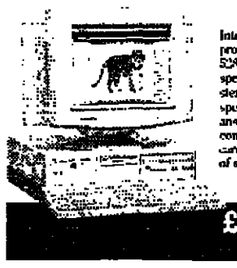
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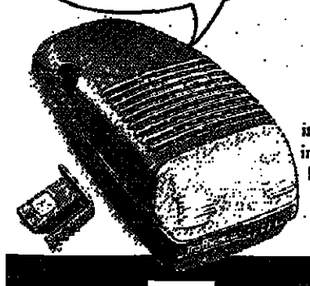
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Cabinet ordered to make bigger effort

Major rallies his ministers for a Christmas war

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR has ordered a Christmas blitz by ministers to try to regain the political initiative from Labour.

The Prime Minister, who is said to be disappointed that his re-election as party leader has produced no discernible upturn in Tory fortunes, has told Cabinet colleagues that he wants a salvo of announcements over the holiday.

Mr Major is said to be irritated by what he regards as the inactivity of his ministers. He wants them to take a higher profile and be more effective in countering Tory grumbling that with a light and uncontroversial legislative programme the Government is drifting towards the election.

He has even said that if they have nothing new to say they should dust off past announcements that had little impact on the media, freshen them up and present them as new. It is understood that Mr Major delivered his pep talk at a recent meeting of ministers.

According to one source, he said: "We haven't been doing and saying enough. I want a bigger effort over Christmas when the Opposition has gone home."

The Prime Minister's move comes against a background of tension among senior ministers over the Government's propaganda effort. The efforts of Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, to give a sharper political edge to Conservative Central Office's campaigning have already run into difficulties with Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, who repudiated a newspaper report based on a briefing from party officials. But *The Times* has been told that other ministers are resentful at what they regard as Dr Mawhinney's trespassing on their territory.

Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, is said to have clashed with the party chairman, who has been critical of his emphasis on public transport at the expense of roads and cars. Michael Heseltine's efforts to co-ordinate ministers' activities are also proving a source of friction. Ministers' diaries have been put on the Deputy Prime Minister's computer. In his capacity as the chairman of the Cabinet committee in charge of co-ordinating and presenting policy, Mr Heseltine is seeking to tinker with the daily timetable to give higher billing for some ministers at the expense of others.

Mr Major's input is different again, placing his emphasis on the need to galvanise ministers and their Whitehall departments into dominating the news agenda through a flood of announcements. Critics say Mr Major fails to appreciate that unless he is prepared to allow his ministers to make waves, more mundane efforts to look busy will be ignored by the media.

Dr Mawhinney, seen by his admirers at the toughest and most effective party chairman since Norman Tebbit, is understood to have denied adamantly reports that the clanger over Lord Mackay's phantom speech led to a row between the two men. But with his six-month honeymoon as chairman clearly over, he badly needs a public relations success to raise morale at Central Office and more widely in the party.

Some senior Tories are saying that although he is widely seen as a close ally of the Prime Minister, he does not have the access to Downing Street that he is entitled to expect. They also say that Mr Major is not giving him the support he should.

The appointment of a new chief media spin doctor at Central Office is imminent and Dr Mawhinney is said to be confident of announcing a name before Christmas.

Many senior ministers believe that Labour's high poll ratings are partly due to the sophistication of its media operation and the impact that Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's press secretary, has had. They expect the Tory chairman to hire someone with similar skills and commitment. But the Tories are also preparing to query suggestions that Mr Campbell would, on the election of a Labour government, double up as the Prime Minister's press secretary and the chief Labour spokesman. Senior ministers say it would be impossible to act in such a way without compromising the impartiality of the Civil Service.



Will to survive is what counts for Tories now

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The greatest threat to the survival of the Major Government is not the steady disappearance of its Commons majority as a result of by-election defeats, but is, much more, a possible loss of its will to survive. The death of Sir David Lightbown and the virtual certainty of the loss of his Staffordshire South East seat in a spring by-election does not of itself increase the chances of a general election next year rather than in spring 1997.

It could still take some time for even the Tories' current slim majority to disappear. Not only do another three Tory MPs have to die, but there is also then a gap of up to three months before a by-election occurs. Moreover, it is not a simple Tory versus Labour calculation. There are 50 other MPs in the Commons, who seldom all turn out. Hence, the Government's normal majority is much more than its nominal margin of five, and is often nearer its lead of 30 over Labour and the Liberal Democrats combined.

Governments can survive for quite a long time with a very slim, or no, overall majority. Labour held on for 19 months in 1950-51 with a majority of six; for 17 months in 1964-66 with a margin of three; for seven months in 1974 in a minority; and for nearly two and a half years in 1976-79 in a minority. What mattered in each case was the direction of the political wind rather than precise parliamentary numbers. Governments lose office when they appear to have lost the political initiative and their opponents see advantage in bringing them down.

The minority Callaghan Government survived for so long in the late 1970s because it was not in the interests of, initially, the battered Liberals, then reeling from the Jeremy Thorpe affair, and, later, the nationalists to bring down Labour. It was only after the referendum on devolution at the beginning of March 1979 that the Scottish Nationalists were willing to press a no confidence motion. The current legislative programme has been designed to minimise the risks not only of all the opposition parties voting together but also of Tory rebellions.

The Government's real vulnerability is internal — in the growing acceptance by senior ministers that after so many years in office the public mood has shifted and the Tories are doomed to defeat. Private conversations with all but the most gung ho quickly turn to what will happen when, not if, the Tories lose the election.

There are parallels not just with the defeatism at the end of the minority Callaghan Government of 1977-79 after the winter of discontent, but also with the Attlee Government of 1950-51, which went to the polls despite having an overall majority of half a dozen. Many senior members of that Government were then old and sick as well as tired, having served continuously in office for 11 years, starting in the wartime coalition. The Government saw an election almost as a release even though the short-term economic and international backgrounds were bad. If it had managed to survive the winter of 1951-52, Labour would have benefited from better financial and economic news. But it was, and looked, a Government whose time was up, even though Labour recorded its highest ever popular vote at the subsequent election.

The Tories now look in better shape, at least physically. Reshuffles have resulted in some new faces at the top, even if few are inspiring. However pessimistic many ministers are in private, it is hard to see, say, Michael Howard or Malcolm Rifkind giving up office as Labour did in 1951. John Major retains both a steely determination and a resilience. He has proved to be the great political survivor. But the main threat to that survival lies not in Commons votes but in the attitudes of his fellow ministers and Tory MPs. There is an aura of defeat about the Government.

PETER RIDDELL

Stationery Office to be privatised

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

HANSARD, the official record of parliamentary proceedings for the past 200 years, is to be privatised and the familiar symbol of Her Majesty's Stationery Office will disappear from government documents.

The Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, has expressed reservations about the sell-off and MPs will debate the proposal next week.

Roger Freeman, the Public Services Minister, told the Commons yesterday that he expected the Stationery Office to be sold by next summer. The HMSO name was not up for sale, but the purchasers will probably be entitled to call themselves "the Queen's printers".

For Labour, Derek Foster dismissed the move as "Tory dogma". MPs also voiced concern about the security of government documents, including budget papers, and the possibility of leaks.

The Stationery Office employs 2,800 staff and has an annual turnover of £340 million. Mr Freeman said: "Job losses are likely unless HMSO is able to seek new sales opportunities. The business will benefit from access to wider markers. Staff will benefit from the increased security of a thriving business."

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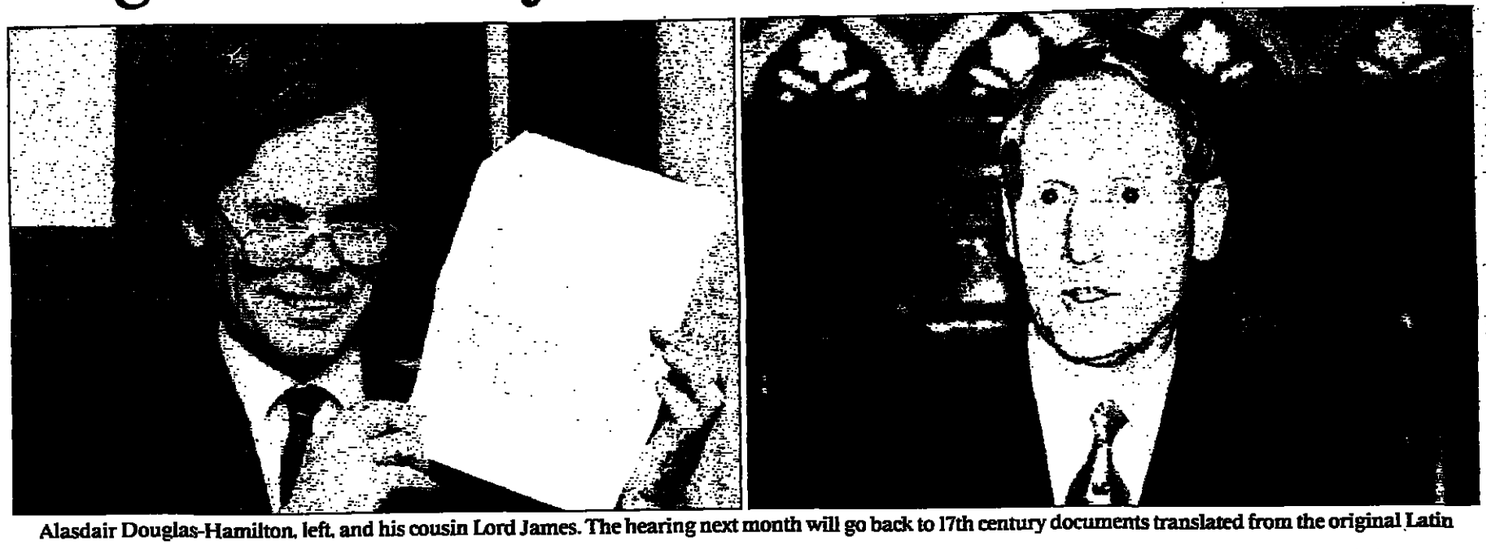
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Government minister defends claim to ancient title and £500,000 legacy for his 16-year-old son

Cousins fight 'friendly' court duel for right to earldom

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESONBDENT



Alasdair Douglas-Hamilton, left, and his cousin Lord James. The hearing next month will go back to 17th century documents translated from the original Latin

A POLITICIAN and his lawyer cousin will go before an ancient court next month to establish which is the rightful heir to the Earldom of Selkirk.

At stake is not only the title and a place in the House of Lords, but also £500,000 and a collection of family oil paintings left by the 10th Earl for his successor. The title brings no family seat.

The two contenders are Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, the Scottish Office Minister and younger brother of the Duke of Hamilton, and his cousin Alasdair Douglas-Hamilton, a lawyer with the Bank of Scotland.

who said yesterday: "I hope we stay friends whatever the outcome."

The case is scheduled to last two days from January 4 at the court of Lord Lyon in Edinburgh. The ancient court dates back to 1672, headed by the Queen's representative in Scotland who decides on matters of nobility. Lord Lyon, Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight, may not give an immediate judgment.

The case began with the death of the 10th Earl of Selkirk, George Nigel Douglas-Hamilton, former First Lord of the Admiralty, in November 1994 at the age of 88. The title was disclaimed by Lord James because he did not want to cause a by-election in his seat of Edinburgh West, where his majority is less than 900. However, he is fighting the claim on behalf of his 16-year-old son, John Andrew, who would inherit the title on his death.

It is unclear whether he would be able to inherit the legacy or if it would be held in trust for his son. He is being represented by Sir Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw, an Edinburgh advocate and a clan chief.

A petition challenging Lord James's claim was lodged in September this year by Mr Douglas-Hamilton, 55. He is named as heir to the Earl of Selkirk by both Burke's Peerage and Debrett's, and he believes he inherited the title Master of Selkirk on the death of his father, Lord Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton, in 1962.

In an interview with *The Times*, he said he was confident he had "right on his side". He will be represented by Professor John Murray, the former Lord Dervaird. His claim is likely to be based on evidence that Anne, Duchess of Hamilton, who married William, Earl of Selkirk in the 17th century and who had seven sons, intended the Earldom of Selkirk and the Dukedom of Hamilton to remain separate. The original Earl of Selkirk was created by Charles I in 1646 and Mr Douglas-Hamilton says he has had the original Latin documents re-translated.

Mr Douglas-Hamilton was brought up in Morayshire with his two sisters and younger brother. He was educated at Gordonstoun and his father, Lord Malcolm, was briefly the Conservative MP for Invernessshire in the 1950s. He has no animosity towards Lord James whom he rarely sees but with whom he remains on friendly terms. He said: "I think Lord James had to make a difficult decision very quickly when he disclaimed the title. I am confident of what I believe is right, but one can never be totally confident that any particular thing will prevail."

He had no idea that the Earldom came with a legacy. "Originally I thought I should go for it in principle, but obviously it costs a lot of money to go to court. At least the legacy will help pay some of the bills."

If he is successful, he will become the 11th Earl and his son Angus, 27, will become the 12th Earl. "I haven't had much chance to discuss it with him, he lives in Kenya."

He was fond of his uncle, the Earl, although they lived 400 miles apart, the Earl being based in the South of England and Mr Douglas-Hamilton living ten miles from Selkirk. If he does succeed to the title, it will be the first time in many years that the Earl of Selkirk will be based in the Scottish Borders.

Lord Malcolm, the younger brother of the childless Earl of Selkirk, was the heir apparent and was known as Master of Selkirk. But his death in 1962 in a plane crash in Africa, in which his youngest son also died, gave rise to uncertainty. The issue was further complicated by the death of Lord James's father, the 14th Duke of Hamilton, in 1973.

Farmers urged to do own policing

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

FARMERS were advised yesterday to help themselves to combat rising rural crime because the police were no longer able to maintain a viable presence in the countryside.

Tom Sackville, a junior Home Office minister, told a conference on rural crime that much could be achieved by the police working in co-operation with local people helping each other in Farm Watch schemes.

"Farms can do a lot to prevent crime by taking simple anti-theft measures," he told the conference, convened in London by the NFU. "An extraordinary proportion of burglaries still involve unlocked doors and windows."

Superintendent Keith Akerman of Hampshire Police acknowledged widespread public concern about the demise of the village bobby, but said limits placed on police numbers and resources by the Home Office made it impossible to sustain that kind of visible presence.

"The truth is, if you looked at rural policing purely on a cost-effective basis, you would do away with rural policing entirely," he said. "If an officer is being called out on only a few occasions in the year, police chiefs are bound to ask if they can afford the luxury of maintaining such beats."

Tony Pexton, deputy president of the NFU, said a survey of farmers had shown that 90 per cent believed rural crime was on the increase. There was also a feeling that reporting crime to the police was "a waste of time".

The crimes uncovered in the survey ranged from the thefts of a barbed wire fence in the Midlands to a drake and six ducks in Cumbria. One of the most worrying recent trends was the growth in farm vandalism, carried out mainly by young people.

Science serves up a lobster surprise

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

LURKING like a cold sore on the lips of the Norwegian lobster, a whole new class of creature has been discovered.

Less than a millimetre long and unlike anything known to science, the creature is not just a new species but a new phylum, or division of the animal kingdom. There are more than a million species but only 35 phyla, so to find another has to be "the zoological highlight of the decade", says Dr Simon Conway Morris of Cambridge University.

The creature has been named *Symbion pandora* by its discoverers, Drs Peter Funch and Reinhardt Mobjerg Kristensen of the Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum at the University of Copenhagen, and the new phylum has been given the name Cycliophora.

***Symbion* is bottle-shaped, and has a round mouth containing a fringe of finger-like cilia for gathering food. An adhesive disc at the base is used for attachment to the bristles surrounding the lobster's mouth. Reproduction in the species is a complex business, involving both sexual and asexual stages.**

Dr Kristensen says the discovery is only the beginning, and he intends to search for more strange creatures. "When we have finished, the zoological system will be turned upside down," he said.

"The report leaves one wondering how many other phyla may have been overlooked," said Dr Conway Morris in a commentary in *Nature* magazine.

"Next time you are in your favourite seafood restaurant, make sure the waiter has to hand a couple of zoology textbooks and a decent microscope on the pudding trolley. Who knows what might be found lurking under the lettuce?"

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European Commission told to stop release of Connolly material to media

Brussels loses court skirmish with rebel

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission has lost an initial legal skirmish in its battle with Bernard Connolly, the British official with renegade views on monetary union who was suspended from his post for attacking the project in a book.

In an injunction, the European Court instructed the Commission to take all necessary measures to ensure that no further information on Mr Connolly's career, personality, opinions, health or reputation reach the media.

Mr Connolly's lawyers had sought the action from the Luxembourg court on the ground that Jacques Santer, the Commission President, and his staff had made personally damaging statements in September after he published *The Rotten Heart of Europe*, his attack on the scheme at the heart of Maastricht.

However, in its ruling on Tuesday, the court rejected Mr Connolly's request for damages to be awarded for any future breach by Commission officials.

"The court appears to be in agreement with us on the main point of our request, that there should be no more misplaced remarks about me," Mr Connolly said yesterday. A Commission tribunal is about to hear the case against Mr Connolly, 46, who faces charges that he breached rules requiring officials to seek permission to publish books and acted against the interests of the Community.

Mr Connolly, who is still nominally head of the unit monitoring the exchange-rate mechanism, could be dismissed for an action that is deemed by some Commission officials to have been tantamount to sacrilege. With the backing of a staff union, Mr Connolly has also asked the European Court to rule the disciplinary action invalid.

The injunction, issued by lower court judges at Luxembourg, said the Commission was not at fault in reporting that Mr Connolly would be disciplined because his conduct in publishing the book was an acknowledged fact.

However, it held the Commission responsible for failing to prevent disparaging remarks, quoted in the media, by unnamed officials. That suggested a poor grasp of the Commission's duty to "ensure that civil servants should not become the object of statements likely to bring into question their honour or professional reputation". The politically sensitive Connolly affair has caused severe irritation in the Brussels executive of the EU at a time when it is battling to promote support for the monetary project among an increasingly sceptical European public.

Mr Connolly has been barred from Commission premises and, according to some colleagues, has been relegated to the rank of "non-person". Commission officials are aware that a decision to dismiss Mr Connolly would be certain to provoke indignation in Britain. Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the Commissioner for Monetary Affairs, said in an interview last week that he had not even heard of Mr Connolly.

The European Court is not expected to take up Mr Connolly's main action, against the Commission's disciplinary action, for six months. A European civil servant since the late 1970s, the Oxford-educated Mr Connolly does not dispute the fact that he did not seek permission publish his book, written on unpaid leave. However, he intends to contest the Commission's accusation that he breached its rules.



Bernard Connolly who is said to be treated as a "non-person" by the European Commission over his attacks on a single currency

Single currency to test resolve of Euro leaders

BY PHILLIP WEBSTER, GEORGE BROCK AND CHARLES BREMNER

JOHN MAJOR is to warn European Union leaders against the "price of error" in drawing up plans for a single currency that may leave a majority of members out in the cold.

The Prime Minister is flying to Madrid tonight for the two-day European Council summit, hoping to win agreement for a detailed study into the implications of pressing ahead with economic and monetary union in January 1999 at a time when many countries in the EU will be either unwilling or unable to join.

The summit of 15 EU leaders looks likely to agree to Mr Major's plan for a study to be carried out by European finance ministers, including Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr Clarke, the Cabinet's leading pro-European, is among those ministers convinced that Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and President Chirac are determined to press ahead with the 1999 starting state, irrespective of economic difficulties in France, and believes that Britain must plan accordingly.

Mr Major has told friends that if the EU failed to carry out a far-reaching inquiry into the impact of a single currency on the single market and the common agricultural policy it would be sleepwalking to the biggest economic change since the Gold Standard. Yesterday, sources close to him said: "In his view, further work ought to be done by the member states on a single currency before it would be prudent to go ahead. The price of error would be too high for Europe, individually or collectively."

Robin Cook, the shadow Foreign Secretary, has urged Conservative pro-Europeans to assert themselves against the "Europhobes". In *The Times* today, he says there is a cross-party majority in Parliament for "constructive engagement". The question is whether those Tories who know that Britain's future lies in Europe will be willing to assert that majority. "It requires them to show the courage to save Britain from being marginalised in Europe and to save their own party from a retreat into narrow nationalism."

As he goes to Madrid, Mr Major is also facing the prospect of a Commons rebellion next week on EU fishing policy. With the Government's majority cut to five, after the death of Sir David Lightbown, ministers are facing a tight vote. Up to ten Tories may side with Labour.

During the summit, beginning tomorrow, the EU leaders are expected to agree on calling any new currency as the "Euro". The summit will also discuss the vexed issue of the future shape of the Union.

On the single currency, Mr Major's hidden agenda is his hope that debate over the difficulties of creating a single currency will throw up problems that force countries in the leading group to slow down. British officials hope the European Monetary Institute, the forerunner of a European Central Bank, might conclude



late next year that the EU's main economies were not converging quickly enough.

Britain will also come under pressure to accept pan-European action against racism after the Brussels Commission announced yesterday far-reaching plans to insert an anti-discrimination clause in all new Community laws, and to proclaim 1997 to be European Year Against Racism.

The Commission announced its scheme as government officials struggled in Brussels for a compromise on an existing anti-racism package that would avert a dispute at the summit, pitting Britain against all its partners.

European diplomats said patience with Britain's attitude was wearing thin. Mr Major was said in Whitehall to be eager to clear the racism package ahead of the summit.

Fishing dispute, page 10
Robin Cook, page 20

Islamic Turkish party attacks 'rag and bone' deal with EU

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE leader of Turkey's Islamist party attacked a trade pact between Ankara and the European Union, ratified yesterday, as a "rag-and-bone" deal that he would not recognise if he came to power in elections later this month.

The Anatolian News Agency quoted Necmettin Erbakan, the Welfare Party leader, as saying that the customs union "is against the constitution. The country wasn't asked about it, no one was."

The European Parliament voted heavily in favour of the customs union deal with 343 deputies for, 149 against and 36 abstaining. It gives Turkey some of the closest links to the EU of any non-member country. The Welfare Party, expected to do well at the general elections, has long opposed the deal outright but has said recently it may renegotiate the pact if it forms a government. Mr Erbakan's party advocates loosening Turkey's ties to the West and setting up an Islamic common market. Euro MPs had threatened to veto the deal on human rights grounds. Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister, said it was the first step towards full EU membership.

The deal, which goes into force on January 1, gives Turkey some of the most privileged ties to the EU of any non-member country. Both sides will remove tariffs affecting the other's industrial products. The vote is expected to give a boost to Mrs Ciller at general elections on December 24. She has pursued customs union as a key project. She toured the streets of Istanbul yesterday waving to passers-by from a campaign bus as the result of the vote was announced through the loudspeaker. Schools in Ankara held celebratory ceremonies.

The customs union will help to double EU exports to Turkey over five years and will increase investment in Turkey, the European Commission has predicted.

But if Turkey fails to make progress on human rights or takes a step backwards, the European Parliament could block future aid, said Abel Matutes, the chairman of the European Parliament's foreign affairs committee.

Presidential aides reject Whitewater subpoena

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE White House faced a constitutional clash with Congress yesterday after formally refusing to release documents subpoenaed by the Senate Whitewater Committee.

President Clinton's advisers cited arguments used by President Nixon during the Watergate scandal to justify their refusal, but the Senate is now expected to challenge that in court. Defying the subpoena is a risk for the President as it contradicts past promises to co-operate fully with all Whitewater investigations.

Mark Fabiani, the associate White House counsel, said the subpoena was "not about seeking the truth — it is about inflicting political damage on the President". Alfonse D'Amato, the committee's Republican chairman, responded by calling the President's refusal to comply with the subpoena "an attempt to stonewall ... the public will be outraged".

The documents are records of a meeting between seven of Mr Clinton's senior aides and lawyers in November 1993 shortly after the White House received inside information about two supposedly independent criminal investigations into the Whitewater affair. Republicans suspect the records show how the White House planned to use that improperly obtained information to impede the investigations. The White House contends that the meeting's purpose was simply to brief the Clintons' new personal lawyer.

Mr Clinton's lawyers told the committee the records were covered both by attorney-client privilege and executive privilege, which protects confidential advice to the President. The Supreme Court recognised the principle of executive privilege when President Nixon invoked it to try to protect his Watergate tapes in 1974, but ruled that it did not extend to discussions of illegal matters and ordered him to surrender the tapes.

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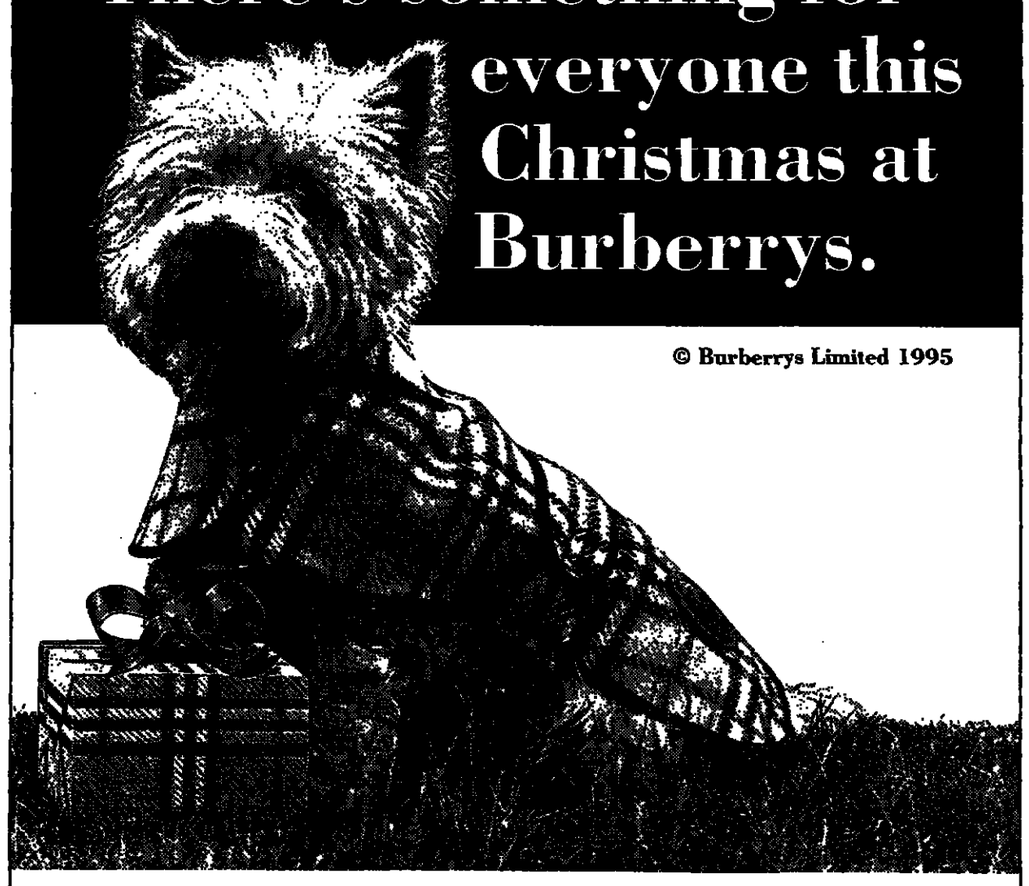
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Chirac rallies his troops behind the Thatcher line

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

IN AN echo of Margaret Thatcher at her most determined, President Chirac yesterday told ministers to stand firm on welfare reform despite the continuing strikes and insisted: "There is no alternative."

That Thatcherite phrase, which earned the former Prime Minister the acronym and nickname Tina, indicated that M Chirac is also not for turning. But the French President also called on his Government to seek "dialogue and negotiation" with the strikers as Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, offered another important concession to striking civil servants.

In a fresh bid to end the conflict, M Juppé promised that there would be no change in the retirement age for civil servants, nor in the way their state pensions are calculated — a pledge he has made to striking train drivers.

M Juppé also said that he would preside over a "social summit" with employers and unions on employment issues on December 21 and pledged to hold talks on restructuring the state-owned rail system "starting from square one".

M Chirac, seeking to rally his troops behind the welfare reform package, said: "We have not been elected to bring about the decline of France. We must steer a steady course. I have confidence in the Government's pursuit of this policy, quite simply because there is no other way."

He dismissed charges that the Government's drive to reduce France's deficit in time for European monetary union had precipitated the crisis by prompting fears of mass job losses. "This is not debate over Europe versus jobs. The choice is between deficits and jobs," M Chirac said.

A vote of no confidence in the Government was easily defeated on Tuesday night, clearing the way for one of M Juppé's key reforms, a new income tax to begin paying off the vast social security debt. "There is no longer any reason for the strike", M Juppé said.

Unions last night called for new strikes and further protest marches, claiming that more than two million people took to the streets of France on Tuesday to oppose the planned overhaul of the social security system in the largest demonstration of the conflict. Many public sector workers returned to work yesterday, but the protest movement showed little sign of abating as union leaders called for another day of action with renewed strikes and demonstrations on Saturday.

Most unions have vowed to press on with the strikes, but their demands have begun to diverge. The Communist-led CGT union renewed calls for the Juppé welfare plan to be withdrawn, while Marc Blondel, head of the Force Ouvrière, also demanded "global negotiations" over unemployment and wages. The largest teachers' union is pressing for an end to the strike, as is the Christian CFTC union.

Public transport remained at a standstill in Paris, Marseilles, Toulouse and Bordeaux, where rubbish began piling up in the streets due to a week-long strike by dustmen.

☐ **Brussels:** Thousands of Belgian public sector workers brought central Brussels to a standstill yesterday afternoon as they protested against impending government budget cuts. *(Reuter)*



Sir Peter Inge, accompanied by Nicholas Soames, gives details in London yesterday of the composition of the British forces in Bosnia

British forces on alert to arrest war criminals

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND BEN MACINTYRE

BRITISH soldiers who are being sent behind Serb lines as part of the Nato-led peace implementation force will be under orders to arrest indicted war criminals if they cross paths.

Elements of the 13,000-strong British military force being prepared for Bosnia-Herzegovina are to be based in several key Serb locations and eventually will be sent to Banja Luka, the Serb stronghold in the North.

The tough role for the British troops, who will have responsibility for the largest section of Bosnia, in the southwest, was outlined yesterday by Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, the Chief of the Defence Staff. They would be expected to arrest any indicted war criminal who arrived at a British checkpoint, he said.

General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb army commander who was indicted for war crimes in July, frequently visited Banja Luka. Sir Peter said it was clear that if General Mladic turned up at a British roadblock, there would be "strategic consequences". However, he emphasised that British troops would not be expected to search for war criminals. "That is not one of their tasks."

Nicholas Soames, Armed Forces Minister, said Britain would work closely with the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. But in New York last night a diplomatic tussle broke out when Russia objected to the provision authorising the detention of war criminals.

As France prepared to host today's formal signing ceremony of the Dayton peace accord, Charles Millon, the Defence Minister, said that Paris would have refused to sign the Bosnian peace treaty if its pilots held captive by the Bosnian Serbs had not been released on Tuesday. Captain Frédéric Chiffot and Lieutenant José Souvignet remained under medical observation in a Paris hospital.

Despite reports that the pilots were being held by General Mladic as a bargaining tool to prevent his prosecution for war crimes, Paris insisted yesterday that there had been no deal. "There is no question about it. No concession was made," M Millon said, adding that President Milosevic of Serbia had instigated their release.

Apart from Banja Luka, the British troops will also be responsible for 2,000 square kilometres which have to be transferred from Muslim-Croat Federation control to the Serbs.

Britain's main combat force will be the 4th Armoured Brigade, with two squadrons of Challenger 1 tanks from The Queen's Royal Hussars, the 2nd Battalion Light Infantry with Warrior armoured vehicles, 1st Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers with Saxons, three batteries of the 155mm AS90 gun from 26 Regiment Royal Artillery and one light 105mm gun-battery taken from 26 Commando Regiment.



The RAF and Royal Navy will continue to play a crucial role in providing protection and maintaining the air exclusion zone and arms embargo. The aircraft carrier, *HMS Illustrious*, now in the Adriatic under national control, will switch to Nato command and will link with the American carrier, *USS America*, and the French carrier, *Clemenceau*, to form a joint strike force.

☐ **Washington:** The Senate was expected to give grudging support to the deployment of 20,000 American troops yesterday after President Clinton pledged that America would lead efforts to arm and train the region's Muslim forces (Tom Rhodes writes).

On the eve of his trip to Paris, Mr Clinton sent a letter of assurance to Robert Dole, the Senate majority leader, designed to pave the way for congressional approval for the mission.

The President's promise is unlikely to please Britain and other Nato allies who have argued that the arming and training programme will undermine the Dayton agreement and could result in a prolonged Western mission in the Balkans.

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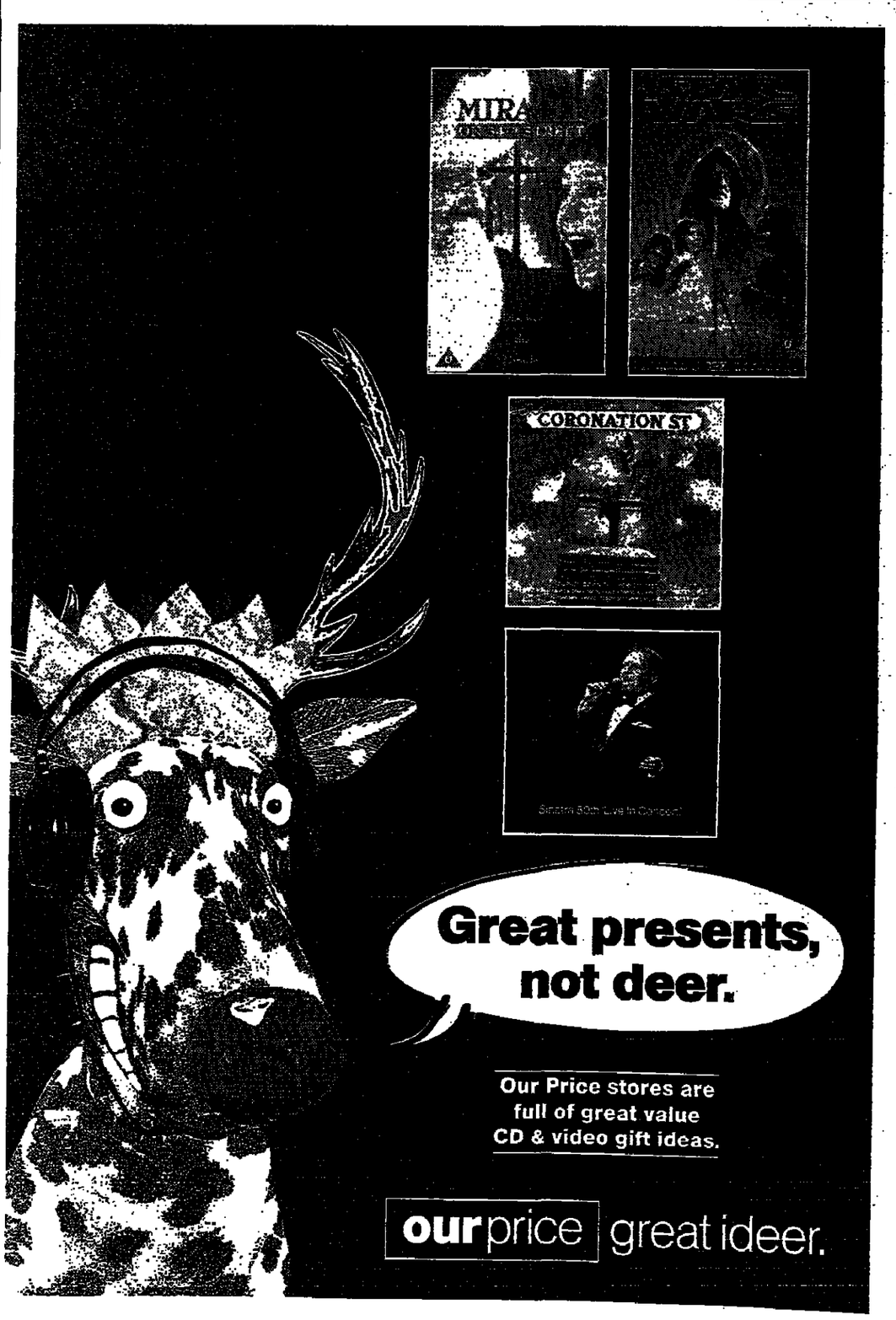
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Return to communism 'means four-hour queues for meat and sausages'

Chernomyrdin pledges 1996 as year of growth

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE Russian Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, made a final appeal to his electorate yesterday to back his reformist policies and said that a communist victory could lead the country to ruin.

In a rare press conference, the head of the Russian Government vowed to continue his economic liberalisation programme whatever the result of Sunday's parliamentary election and promised there would be "no U-turn" to socialism.

"The year 1996 must and will become the first year of economic growth in Russia," the head of the centrist Our Home is Russia party said. "The retreat has stopped, we have started moving forward." His confidence is partly justified by his impressive record over the past year when he succeeded in stabilising the rouble and bringing down the inflation rate. The economic reforms have won him many supporters in the West and among Russia's emerging urban middle class, who will back him in the polls.

However,the transition has also been painful for millions of Russians who have seen education, health and social services collapse, and who look back fondly on the relative stability of the Soviet era.



Mr Chernomyrdin conceded that the communists would do well in the elections, but he remained confident that his Government, which is appointed by the head of state, would stay in power to pursue its reformist policies.

Even President Yeltsin has hinted that if the Government's centrist and reformist supporters are beaten by the leftist and nationalist opposition, he may feel compelled to replace his Prime Minister with a hardliner.

Mr Chernomyrdin left little doubt what a return to communism would mean for Russia. "It would mean throwing everything back," he said, citing statistics from 1991 which showed that the average queueing time for meat and sausages in the former Soviet Union was four hours.

"Does our economy need that, do our people need that?" he asked. "The price of these slogans and promises is very, very dear." Mr Chernomyrdin, 56, gave a solid performance, but many in Russia still wonder if he has the right character to lead the country into the post-Yeltsin era. It was clear throughout the election campaign that he disliked public exposure and lacked telegenic qualities.

To offset his staid appearance, his party has run an expensive publicity campaign with slick television advertisements and "cultural events", and a fashion show with Claudia Schiffer, the German supermodel.

In a more traditional form of campaigning, Mr Chernomyrdin repeated yesterday his more direct appeal to the electorate. He promised to reimburse millions of investors who lost their shares in pyramid schemes, pledged to pay up delayed salaries in the public sector and promised to help pensioners, war veterans and invalids.

Although Our Home is Russia is still struggling in the polls behind the communists, Mr Chernomyrdin has calculated that many undecided voters will back his centrist party. Although he may project an uninspiring image, he is seen as a guarantor of stability, security and maybe even a brighter future.



Chernomyrdin, making his final appeal to Russian voters yesterday, before Sunday's election, promised that there would be "no U-turn" to socialism

Austrian election puts Good Life at centre stage

FROM ROGER BOYES IN VIENNA

THE Vienna waltz is moving to a new political rhythm. Franz Vranitzky, Austria's Socialist Chancellor, has danced through election rallies and press conferences with Tony Blair and Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister. Wolfgang Schüssel, the conservative rival, has asked Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and Theo Waigel, Bonn's Finance Minister, on to the floor.

The music plays on until election day on Sunday with more and more European politicians gliding in and out of Vienna to underline the importance of the ballot. This is a small country, with barely eight million people, but there is a great deal at stake. Commentators talk of Austria being on the brink of a revolution akin to the upheavals in Italy or the post-communist states.

The elections, like the riots in France, are about the Good Life. How far must the welfare state be rolled back? What is the responsibility of the state to its citizens? What further sacrifices are demanded by membership of the European Union, or future accession to the common currency?

Herr Schüssel prefers boogie-woogie to the waltz and hammers hard on a piano to show sceptical students, who know he plans to raise tuition fees, that he is in tune with them and is Austria's moderniser. It is all in the body language: the ursine Herr Vranitzky moves as if he has grown tired in power; Herr Schüssel as if he has been injected with vitamins; Jörg Haider, the right-wing leader, as if he were pursued by hungry wolves.

The social democrat Herr Vranitzky wants to preserve as much as he can of the welfare state while Herr Schüssel, Foreign Minister in the coalition, wants to bring down the budget deficit more convincingly to meet the Maastricht criteria for entry to European monetary union. The two men clashed in the drafting of the budget, forcing a dissolution of parliament.

There is little doubt that Austrians are feather-bedded. Quality newspapers and most cultural institutions receive generous subsidies. Civil servants are often encouraged to retire in their mid-fifties and receive about 80 per cent of their salary until they get their official pension. Paid maternity leave can last for two years. Health care is almost free.

So far the Austrian economy has done surprisingly well despite this costly welfare network. Inflation has fallen to 2 per cent recently, unemployment is well below the European average, at 6.5 per cent, and politicians say that there is almost full employment among young people. Export performance is strong and productivity high.

Why, then, should Austria subject itself to the kind of pain being experienced in France? The reason, Herr Schüssel says, is that the system is close to breaking point. Students stay at least seven years at university and retire less than 30 years later: too little to fund a strained welfare system. Good housekeeping dictates reform.

Austrians are disillusioned about EU membership. In last year's referendum, 66 per cent voted for entry to the Union. If the vote were to be repeated tomorrow, only 40 per cent would support entry.

There is no question of Austrians taking to the streets like the French, but the betting is that Austrians will either vote cautiously for Herr Vranitzky or for Herr Haider.

If the Socialist-conservative coalition is returned to power with a weakened conservative component and a stronger far-right opposition, Austria will begin to look very wobbly and another election may follow shortly after Sunday.



Vranitzky: seems to have grown tired in power

WI party preaches gospel of gentle politics

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

THE Women of Russia, an all-female party that is committed to changing the ground rules of male-dominated Russian politics, could turn out to be the surprise success in Sunday's parliamentary elections.

The group, an offshoot of the Communist-era women's committees that existed in every town and city, is making a late surge in the opinion polls. A higher than expected turnout is bound to boost its prospects, pollsters say. The party hopes to pick up the votes of women who are fed up with aggressively male politics and want to cast a safe, non-partisan vote. Leonid Sedov, a pollster, said that, with a turnout of 70 per cent, the party could come in second after the frontrunners, the Communist Party.

The party has also had a stroke of luck: it won the draw to be the first party on the ballot paper's list of the 43 electoral blocs, which potentially could attract undecided voters.

The Women of Russia flinch at the word "feminism". Mostly fifty-something wives and mothers, they have more of a no-nonsense wartime attitude. The movement evolved from the Soviet Union for Women group, the Communist version of the Women's Institute. Yekaterina Lakhova, its leader, who lists her hobbies in a Who's Who as "baking cakes for her family", published a book last week entitled *My Path to Politics*.

The party is appealing to voters by highlighting the brawls, boorish behaviour and verbal abuse in the male-dominated Duma. "We would like to change the rules of the game in politics, to be gentle and accessible to ordinary people," she told a press conference last week.

The party's advertisment on television is filled with images of women harvesting wheat, dancing and singing, and its party leaders talking to mostly male politicians. A clip shows Mrs Lakhova physically separating two deputies brawling in the Duma. In the background, Aleksandr Morozov, a pop singer, croons the party's theme, *Women of Russia ... you are the most beautiful on earth.*"

Mrs Lakhova has denied charges that they do not have any clear policies. She said her priorities were to defend women's jobs in the market economy and to increase their representation in Russian institutions. "Russia will be reborn only when women take their deserved place in society," she said.



Lakhova: lists baking cakes as her hobby

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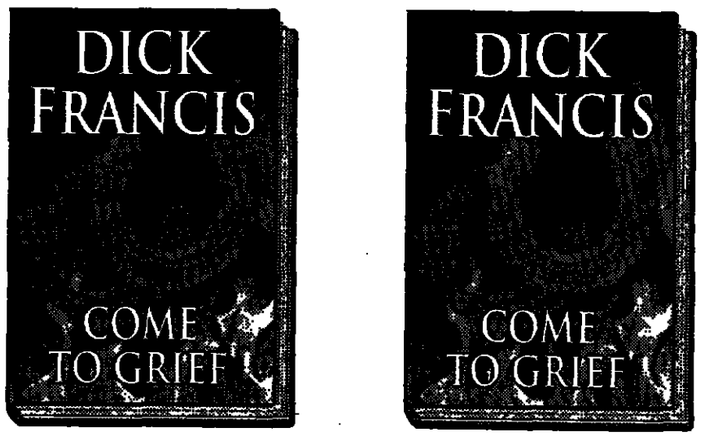
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Officials refuse to show film of Rabin killing

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI authorities refused to disclose yesterday whether they would release for public viewing a film showing the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

The only-known video footage of the killing of the Prime Minister was taken from a rooftop by an amateur cameraman. The film has been in the hands of the authorities for nearly a month. Its existence was disclosed on Tuesday, prompting fresh accusations of an official cover-up.

As public pressure grew for the film to be shown in public, Orit Shemesh, spokesman for the commission of inquiry into the killing, said that the tape could not be released because it was being used by the commission. She denied media accusations that a news blackout on the tape's existence had been imposed. Observers say the tape could be crucial in identifying security lapses that led to the assassination.

The Justice Ministry admitted that the inquiry team had viewed the tape several times. Meir Shamgar, a former Chief Justice heading the inquiry, argued that the commissioners were concerned that the clear images of Mr Rabin being shot and collapsing in agony would be painful for his family. So far, the images that have been seen are still-photographs showing Mr Rabin's heels as he lay beside his car.

The secrecy about the tape refuelled the many conspiracy theories circulating about the assassination, especially those concerning the possible involvement of members of Israel's security services.

Confirming the importance of the footage, Etti Eshed, spokesman for the Justice Ministry, said: "He filmed what no one else did. You can see the entire event."

Yigal Amir, the self-confessed assassin, goes on trial next week. According to the newspaper *Yediot Aharonot*, he has claimed during interrogation to have received permission to kill Rabin from "many rabbis who fear the fate of Israel".



Wei Jingsheng, right, the Chinese dissident, at his trial yesterday in a court in Peking where he was jailed for 14 years on charges of trying to overthrow the Government

China ready to weather Wei protests

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA appears to be prepared to weather the international condemnation of the jailing of the dissident Wei Jingsheng.

During the days leading up to the trial the White House, where one of Wei's sisters was received by Anthony Lake, the National Security Adviser, deplored the trial. Congress passed a resolution demanding that that he be set free and the State Department issued a similar call. The European Union, according to Chris Patten, Governor of Hong Kong, is considering taking action over Wei and Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, has called for his release.

Leading human rights organisations have attacked China's persecution of Wei and international writers signed statements supporing him.

In Hong Kong, there will be demonstrations and marches tomorrow and at the weekend. Last night Mr Patten said: "I hope that leaders in China consider the impact on people in Hong Kong ... people attach importance to their civil liberties, their values, their freedoms in Hong Kong."

All this will have been foreseen in Peking where in 1987 Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader, said: "We put Wei Jingsheng behind bars [in 1979], didn't we? Did that damage China's reputation?" The simple answer to Mr Deng's question is yes, but China's reputation rests on its size, rather than on its wisdom or maturity. It is basically a regional player and has long been seen as a country which exercises its power ruthlessly and often recklessly. It hammers its internal critics, oppresses its Tibetan, Muslim, and Christian minorities and sets off nuclear explosions.

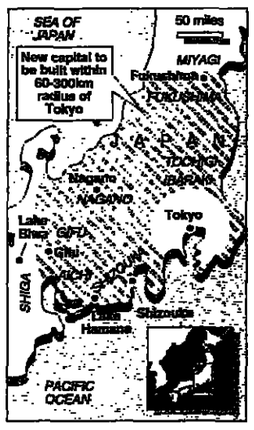
China makes sweeping claims hundreds of miles offshore in the South and East China Seas and its forces manoeuvre and fire test missiles near Taiwan. Peking calls on foreign governments to shun the Dalai Lama and nearly held up the United Nations action against Iraq by threatening to veto the operation and eventually abstained. It supplies weapons and nuclear know-how to nations such as Pakistan, Iran, Syria and Iraq.

Foreign leaders regularly deplore these acts and when they travel to China they raise the question of human rights. Just as regularly China takes little notice, backing down temporarily only when threatened with serious sanctions for pirating intellectual property or selling weapons. In the past year, as Wei has told President Clinton, the Americans and their allies have increasingly separated human rights from economic matters in the interest of China's vast trade. The Tiananmen Square massacre was Peking's biggest test. For two years after 1989 there was a Western boycott on international leaders travelling to Peking; John Major was the first to go, in 1991, to sign an agreement to build Hong Kong's new airport. Other leaders followed and trade burgeoned.

However, the jailing of Wei reveals the extent of the China paradox, as does the crushing of the dissident movement. Peking is plainly terrified of a tiny, unco-ordinated, non-violent movement for human rights and modest democracy. It worries, with far more reason, about its unstable peasantry, industrial workers and its 100 million unemployed. The Peking regime is uneasy, waiting for Mr Deng to die, and uncertain what will happen at home or abroad when he does.

☐ **Police plan:** China plans to base paramilitary police in Hong Kong after the colony reverts to its control in 1997 to quell any potential civil unrest, the Hong Kong-based *Far Eastern Economic Review*, reported yesterday.

Hong Kong's High Court yesterday handed down its first verdict in Chinese in more than 150 years of British colonial rule. The 16-page ruling, after the territory's first Chinese hearing, ordered the children of a 90-year-old woman to pay her $HK3,000 (£256) for swindling her. *(AFP)*



Japan plans new capital on quake-free site

FROM PEREGRINE HODSON IN TOKYO

THE construction of a new capital for Japan less susceptible to earthquakes was suggested yesterday in a government report delivered to Tomiichi Murayama, the Prime Minister.

Almost three years in preparation, the report recommended that work should begin in 2000 and be sufficiently advanced for the Diet to move to the new city by 2010. A site should be chosen within two years.

The committee responsible for the report avoided specifying where the new capital should be, but gave a list of factors that should be taken into account in choosing the site. Convenient access, sufficient water supplies and sufficient space without mountains or heavy snowfalls are among the requirements. The new capital should be at least 37 miles from Tokyo but not more than 190 miles away and within 40 minutes' drive of an international airport.

The Kobe earthquake in January, which killed more than 5,000, may have concentrated the minds of the committee. Greater Tokyo has a population of 30 million and stands on a geological fault shaken by severe earthquakes on a 70-year cycle. The last earthquake, in 1923, killed 100,000 and another is overdue. Estimates of deaths from the next "Big One" range from 9,000 to 50,000 to 100,000. By some projections, a quarter of Tokyo would be destroyed by fire.

Osamu Uno, head of the committee, gave several reasons for recommending a new capital. "To ease the concentration of political, judicial and economic functions in Tokyo, to make the nation better able to endure natural disasters and to prompt further economic development, the relocation should be swiftly implemented," he said. The cost of the move is expected to be 14 trillion yen (£91 billion) for land purchase and building; the initial population will be 600,000.

It was unclear last night whether the new capital would become a political centre while the hub of business and financial activity remained in Tokyo. In a poll of 50 leading companies, 80 per cent were in favour of the proposal, compared with 74 per cent of government officials.

Four governors and three mayors of the Greater Tokyo area are opposed; local authorities in northern and central Japan are enthusiastic.

Leading article, page 21

Food aid to North Korea in danger

The World Food Programme said yesterday that it will stop feeding 500,000 North Koreans after floods damaged food crops unless other large-scale donors can be found (Oliver August writes).

"We need help soon or we will have to pull out altogether," Catherine Bertini, of the WFP, said. The United Nations agency started to deliver food after floods last summer covered fields with sand and stones.

Jakarta accused

Jakarta: Amnesty International accused the Indonesian military of raping, torturing and executing women human rights activists. Its study comes as the UNHCR said there "are very grave" rights abuses in East Timor. *(Reuter)*

Execution record

Houston: James Michael Briddle, convicted of strangling a Houston oil worker, was injected with lethal chemicals in the fourth execution in Texas in a week, capping a record year of 19 executions in the state. *(Reuter)*

Folk hero dies

Los Angeles: Douglas Corrigan, who became a folk hero in 1938 after he flew from New York bound for California and ended up in Ireland, has died aged 88. He said his compass froze and always stuck to that story. *(Reuter)*

Taj Mahal order

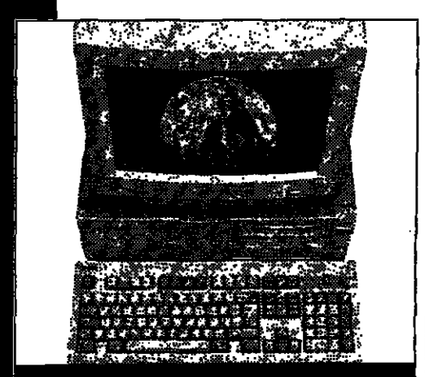
Agra: The Indian Government ordered 104 factories around the Taj Mahal that ignored previous pollution-control orders to shut down by the end of the year to save the monument, which is corroding from pollution. *(AP)*

Tokyo firewater

Osaka: Using doses of radiation strong enough to kill 250 people, Japanese scientists say they can make bad wine taste good and cheap whiskey smooth. The process is illegal in most countries because of cancer fears. *(Reuter)*

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Pilots turn tables on Vegas casino laser beam shows

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THE dazzling laser beam displays of Las Vegas casinos, the latest weapon in the endless battle for customers, have been switched off — because of reports that they can temporarily blind the pilots of low-flying airliners.

McCarran International Airport, which is barely a mile from the largest hotels on The Strip, has received 51 reports of pilots being unable to see at crucial moments before landing and after take-off; in all cases the pilots blamed laser displays.

Shelby LaCroix, a pilot whose airline flies thousands of gamblers into Las Vegas every day from Los Angeles, was steering his Boeing 737 through a banking turn three miles from the airport on the evening of October 30 when a brilliant flash of light momentarily blinded him and forced him to hand over the controls to his co-pilot.

"When the laser hit my eye, time stopped for me," he told *The Wall Street Journal*. "Had it hit me and the other pilot simultaneously, I shudder to think what would have happened. Of course, the airplane was still flying at 250 mph."

His report to the Food and Drug Administration, which monitors the medical use of lasers, was among those that prompted Monday's letter to casinos from the FDA banning rooftop laser shows. The Las Vegas Hilton and the Rio Suite Hotel, which boasted the city's most spectacular lasers, have since shut them down, relying on their more traditional onslaughts of neon light to attract attention.

The Luxor, a pyramid of steel and smoked glass, yards from the airport perimeter, had already installed a fail-safe mechanism to turn off a pair of smaller lasers that emerge from the eyes of a sphinx and are supposed to strike a nearby fountain. If a drop in water pressure causes the fountain to shrink, the lasers now switch off automatically instead of playing over the airport's taxi-ways.

Lest the gambling hordes think the FDA a kill-joy, it has released results of tests on "flash blindness" carried out in simulators by McDonnell Douglas, the aircraft manufacturer. Dozens of pilots were exposed to lasers while making a turn — almost half of them crashed.

Storm kills five

Los Angeles: Five people died, thousands of homes were flooded and large areas left without electricity as heavy rain and hurricane-force winds hit America's Pacific coast from San Francisco to Seattle. Yesterday a state of emergency was declared in western Oregon.



Lindy Chamberlain-Creighton with her new husband, Rick Creighton, before their arrival at the coroner's court in Darwin. She has not ruled out further legal action

Open verdict in dingo baby case

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

ONE of Australia's most divisive cases, the disappearance of nine-week-old Azaria Chamberlain 15 years ago, remained unsolved yesterday after a Northern Territory coroner recorded an open verdict in Darwin.

Lindy and Michael Chamberlain had asked for a formal finding on the cause of their baby's death, after she disappeared from a campsite near Ayers Rock in August 1980. They claimed that Azaria, whose body was never found, was taken from their tent by a dingo.

But a court subsequently found Mrs Chamberlain guilty of murder and her husband of being an accessory after the fact. Three years into a life sentence she was released after the child's bloodstained matinée jacket was found at the base of the rock, discrediting earlier forensic science evidence.

The convictions were quashed and nearly half a million pounds in compensation was paid. But the coroner's file on her death has remained open. Yesterday, after three inquests, a murder trial, two appeals and a royal commission, the Chamberlains, now divorced, went back to Darwin to clear their names.

John Lowndes, the coroner, ruled in a 105-page report that there was not enough evidence to say either a dingo took the child, or that her mother was involved. "The only finding I can record is an open one," he said.

Mrs Chamberlain-Creighton, who has remarried, said: "I guess this may not be the end of the case after all. You may hear from us again."



Michael Chamberlain leaving court yesterday

Californians back 'Gingrich clone'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

NEWT GINGRICH enjoyed a brief respite from his increasing political troubles yesterday with a resounding Republican victory in a congressional by-election the Democrats had tried to make a referendum on the unpopular House Speaker.

Tom Campbell romped home with nearly 60 per cent of the vote against Jerry Estruth, his Democratic opponent, in the Californian district of San Jose. Testing the strategy with which the Democrats hope to recapture the House next year, Mr Estruth had labelled Mr Campbell a "Gingrich clone" and suggested a vote for him was a vote for the Speaker's extremist agenda. Mr Campbell convinced the voters that while he was a fiscal conservative, he was a social moderate.

Willie Brown, the former Speaker of the California Assembly, was elected the first black Mayor of neighbouring San Francisco, defeating the incumbent Frank Jordan, a fellow Democrat, with 57 per cent of the vote. Mr Brown, 60, rose from the humblest of backgrounds to become one of the most powerful and flamboyant Speakers in California's history, but recently lost that post after 14 years.

"The night is over and I done won," the exuberant Mr Brown told cheering supporters early yesterday.

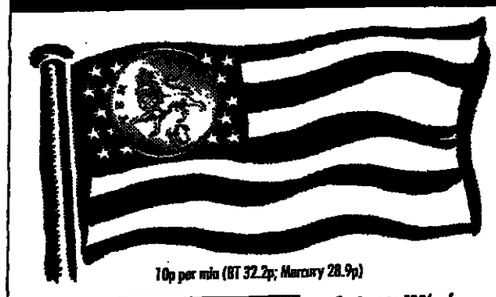
In Chicago's impoverished South Side, Jesse Jackson's son won a crushing victory in another congressional by-election, beating his Republican opponent with 76 per cent of the vote. Jesse Jackson Jnr, 30, whose only job experience has been as field director for his father's National Rainbow Coalition, delivered a victory speech filled with echoes of Martin Luther King. "I have a dream that one day the South Side of Chicago will look like the North Side," he said.

Mr Jackson will be sworn in today by Mr Gingrich, whose removal is his top priority.



Jackson Jnr: echoes of Martin Luther King

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36 MONTHS	With Repayment Protection	£42.55	£63.83	£85.11	£124.01	£165.35	£206.68	£248.02	£289.36	£330.70	£372.04	£413.37
	Without Repayment Protection	£35.52	£53.29	£71.05	£104.02	£138.70	£173.37	£208.05	£242.73	£277.40	£312.08	£346.75
48 MONTHS	With Repayment Protection	N/A	N/A	£71.40	£103.03	£137.38	£171.72	£206.07	£240.41	£274.76	£309.10	£343.45
	Without Repayment Protection	N/A	N/A	£57.45	£83.52	£111.36	£139.20	£167.04	£194.89	£222.73	£250.57	£278.41
60 MONTHS	With Repayment Protection	N/A	N/A	£64.55	£92.19	£122.92	£153.65	£184.38	£215.11	£245.84	£276.57	£307.30
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Tel.No. (incl. code)
How long have you lived at this address?
years months
If less than 5 yrs, please give previous address
Postcode
Is your current home: Owned ☐ Rented ☐
With Parents ☐ Forces ☐
Your Date of Birth __/__/__
Married ☐ Single ☐
Widowed ☐ Divorced ☐
Spouse/Partner: Initials Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms*
Surname
Date of Birth __/__/__ No. of Dependants ☐

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Your occupation
Employer's/Business Name
Type of Business
Address
Postcode
Tel. No.
Are you: Employed ☐ Self-employed ☐ Armed Forces ☐
If self-employed, are you a:
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Time employed/self employed yrs mths
Please give previous employer's name:
Occupation:
Spouse's occupation
Employer's/Business Name
Tel No.
Time employed/self employed yrs mths

YOUR BANK DETAILS
Bank/Building Soc. Name
Branch
Bank Sort Code
Account Number
Credit Cards: Access/Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐
Diners Club ☐ Others (please state)

YOUR INCOME & OUTGOINGS
INCOME: Your basic monthly income after tax £
Spouse/Partner's monthly income after tax £
Other income £
Total monthly income £
OUTGOINGS: Mortgage/Rent £
Total monthly HP/credit commitments £
Other monthly outgoings £
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Is he Just William - or Dennis the Menace?

Family life can be made a misery by a hyperactive child — but should parents agree to a controversial drug treatment? Ian Robertson talks to one mother facing the dilemma

LOUIS is only ten years old but already he is notorious in his village near Southend. He has thrown a large, living crab through the open window of a passing motorist, cut down a neighbour's flowers and tried to sell them from his own driveway, and stuffed itching powder down schoolmates' shirts.

To any *Just William* fan, these sound like the endearing exploits of Richmal Crompton's much-loved hero. But when you hear how Louis eluded his mother in the local supermarket, and was found with an unmasked razor "shaving" the arm of a passing toddler, the indulgent smiles start to slip.

"Why can't she control her child?" That question has often rung in the ears of Jacky Coole, a teacher and mother of three. Sandwiched between her two girls, aged seven and 12, is the restless, impulsive and unpredictable Louis. "I had dealt with difficult children, learning disabilities and behaviour problems," she says, "but even that didn't prepare me for Louis.

"From the time he was a baby he didn't sleep much, and by three his behaviour was very anti-social — throwing food, kicking people, rushing around like an animal."

At seven, Louis was diagnosed as hyperactive (what American experts call attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD) at Great Ormond Street Hospital. His mother reluctantly agreed that he should be given Ritalin (methylphanidate), an amphetamine-type drug which improves mental functioning. "As soon as he started on it, he sat down and made some beautiful flower arrangements, something he had never done before," she says.

Mrs Coole believes that without Ritalin, it would be difficult to keep Louis in his ordinary school, even as a "special needs" pupil.

Both the diagnosis of ADHD and the use of Ritalin have been heavily criticised in Britain by doctors and the media. Opponents argue that the condition does not exist and that children should not be fed a powerful drug just to keep them quiet. This is an understandable reaction to the practice in America, where on average one child in every school class is prescribed a drug to improve mental functioning, and prescriptions for Ritalin have increased by 600 per cent in the past five years. In Australia, too, believers in ADHD claim that 15 per cent of children suffer from the disorder.

British experts treat such claims with well-justified scepticism. But they do believe that a hyperactive condition exists as an imprecise description of a pattern of behaviour which can have many different causes. Professor Eric Taylor, of the Institute of Psychiatry in London, is an expert on the subject and author of *The Hyperactive Child: a Parent's Guide* (Optima, £7.99). He is adamant that ADHD is a description and not an explanation of behaviour.

"The truly hyperactive child shows the problems long before going to school, finds great difficulty in concentrating and shows difficult behaviour which has poisoned relationships with other people," he says.

So how can parents know if their child is a mischievous but normal William Brown (sufferers are usually boys), or suffering from hyperactivity? The American Psychiatric Association has compiled a list of telltale signs (see box). All children will sometimes act in these ways and to be classified as hyperactive at least six symptoms must appear before the age of seven, be seriously affecting school or social activities and not be confined to just one setting. Professor Taylor believes ADHD is increasingly being recognised in Britain.

Problems with concentration and attention almost always go together with hyperactivity, though most affected children are much better in fast-moving circumstances such as playing video games, according to Professor David Skuse, of the Institute of Child Health in London. "They also tend to be much better off in one-to-one encounters," he says. "It is the slow-moving situation that they find most difficult."

Hyperactive disorders affect about one in 200 children in Britain, and can have many causes, including brain damage, congenital malformation of the brain, or a failure of attachment between parents and child. There is probably a hereditary component — Mrs Coole thinks that her husband is also affected.

Some sufferers may have subtle differences in the way their brains work. The right frontal area of the brain acts as a sort of "boredom override" centre, allowing us to concentrate in situations where nothing much exciting is happening. The few studies that have been done suggest that some ADHD sufferers may show abnormalities in this region. Chemical messengers in the brain known as the catecholamines are also important in maintaining concentration, and Ritalin may boost catecholamine activity.

"Ritalin tones down Louis's hyperactivity, but he can still be unpredictable and antisocial," says Mrs Coole. "And it can keep him awake until midnight." Amphetamine-type drugs can also cause loss of appetite and, rarely, depression.

Professor Taylor believes that drugs like Ritalin should be given only to children who are truly hyperactive, for whom concentration and attention is a disabling problem, and where psychological treatments have been tried first. This cautious approach is wise, given our scant knowledge of the long-term effects of the drug.

Hyperactivity disrupts the lives of the children and their families. Toddlers can show psychological problems later in childhood, and children who have poor concentration at age five tend to be poor readers two years later. Fifty per cent of children who are truly hyperactive at seven end up with a psychiatric disorder as adults.

"When the specialist told us about the poor prognosis, it almost destroyed us," says Mrs Coole. She and her family joined a support group for ADHD sufferers, called Ladder, and she offers advice to other affected families.

What would her advice be to parents of children like Louis? "Genuine sufferers need to have the disorder recognised, just as dyslexia has become recognised. Parents need support, not blame, and GPs need to accept that there is a big problem."

● *Ladder, PO Box 700, Wolverhampton WV3 7YY (enclose SAE).*

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Tiny terror from Hollywood — Michael Oliver starring as Junior in the film *Problem Child*

THE DANGER SIGNS

Hyperactive children will show at least six of the following symptoms before the age of seven in school and home:

- Fidget and squirm.
- Leave their seat in school at the wrong time.
- Run about or climb at the wrong time.
- Have difficulty in playing or working quietly.
- Talk excessively and blurt out answers to questions.
- Have difficulty awaiting turn and interrupt conversations or games.
- Make careless mistakes through inattention to detail.

Husky throat? It may not be the booze

Drink and dry



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE response to the Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell's call for men to restrict their alcohol intake to 28 small glasses of wine or its equivalent, and for women to have no more than 21 in a week, may be realistic but is likely to fall on deaf ears until after the Christmas party season. This is the time of year when a heavy night is often followed by a morning coping with a husky voice and a dry mouth and throat.

The reveller usually corrects the dehydration caused by the alcohol, and the mouth dried by a night of mouth breathing, possibly even snoring, by glasses of fresh orange juice or draughts of water. By lunchtime all is well.

Lucky reveller — his or her discomfort lasts only a few hours. But for many people the problem of a dry mouth, xerostomia, is always present and stems from failure of the salivary glands. Xerostomia is not a trivial disability. Speech is difficult, every meal becomes a battle to swallow dry or lumpy food, and each morning the sufferer wakes with a mouth which is dry, red, shiny and often secondarily infected with thrush. The gums and teeth are usually inflamed and sore.

Meals are not only spoilt by the battle to swallow food, but the lack of saliva plus any thrush infection takes away its taste, patients often saying that all food tastes like sawdust.

Xerostomia is a symptom of many diseases but it can also be induced by treatment. One in 40 people suffer from a connective tissue disorder and these diseases, found more frequently in women and including such common conditions as rheumatoid arthritis, Raynaud's disease, scleroderma and systemic lupus erythematosus, are often associated with an unpleasantly dry mouth. One in three patients with rheumatoid arthritis, for instance, have this problem.

In Sjögren's syndrome, dry eyes, a dry mouth and an associated connective tissue disorder are combined, and the loss of saliva is particularly distressing. Ninety per cent of those who suffer with it are women.

Diabetes is another condition which frequently causes a dry mouth, and xerostomia often follows surgery or radiotherapy for cancer of the mouth, head or neck. Physicians as well as surgeons and radiotherapists can give their patients an excessively dry mouth, as it can be a side effect of a wide variety of drugs prescribed for such diverse conditions as depression, heart failure, schizophrenia and allergies.

The symptoms of a dry mouth can be helped by constantly sipping sugar-free fluids, sucking sugar-free sweets or chewing gum designed to stimulate the flow of saliva, and by coating the mouth with edible oil at night.

Above all, relief is obtained by the use of saliva substitutes which can be applied by a spray, or sucked in lozenge or pastille form.

● *A Norwegian firm, Nycomed, which manufactures a salivary substitute, has issued a first-class booklet written by specialist doctors, nurses and speech therapists, which can be obtained from Nycomed House, 2111 Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3EA (0121-742 2444).*

Sound advance in diagnosis



ULTRASOUND scanning has become an essential diagnostic tool. Although it is a simple, painless procedure, however, interpreting the results of tests requires considerable skill. An ultrasound is only as good as the radiologist, or other specialist, who is operating it; the pictures it produces can be as indecipherable as some weather maps.

Men are becoming accustomed to the idea that if their PSA (prostatic specific antigen) — the blood test which is helpful in differentiating between benign and malignant disease of the prostate — is raised they will need further investigations, including an ultrasound. The assessment of the size of the prostate is determined by a transrectal examination.

Women, too, are benefiting from greater use of the ultrasound. *General Practitioner* magazine reports that ultrasound examination in gynaecological clinics can revolutionise diagnosis.

In a recent survey at the May Day Hospital in Thornton Heath, Surrey, a vaginal examination coupled with a trans-vaginal ultrasound enabled gynaecologists to make the correct diagnosis in 98 per cent of cases on patients' first visit to the clinic.

Dummies out, eardrums in



A DUMMY stuck into the mouth of a baby is aesthetically unattractive, but whether it is bad for the baby's health has been a matter of controversy for nearly a century.

Dummies have been condemned as possible sources of infection and distorters of the shape of the child's mouth, and have been accused of creating a high gothic arched palate, possibly leading later to crowding of the teeth.

The journal *Paediatrics* has recently published research from Finland which has given more evidence in support of those who are opposed to the dummy. Attacks of otitis media (acute inflammation of the eardrum) are more than twice as common in children who still use a dummy between the ages of two and three, and a third more common in the under-twos. In otitis media an infection often spreads up the Eustachian tube from the mouth and throat to the middle ear. Inflammation of the eardrum causes earache, fever, deafness and, rather confusingly, vomiting and abdominal pain. If parents want to reduce the risk of these acute symptoms they should heed the advice of the paediatricians that no child over ten months should use a dummy.

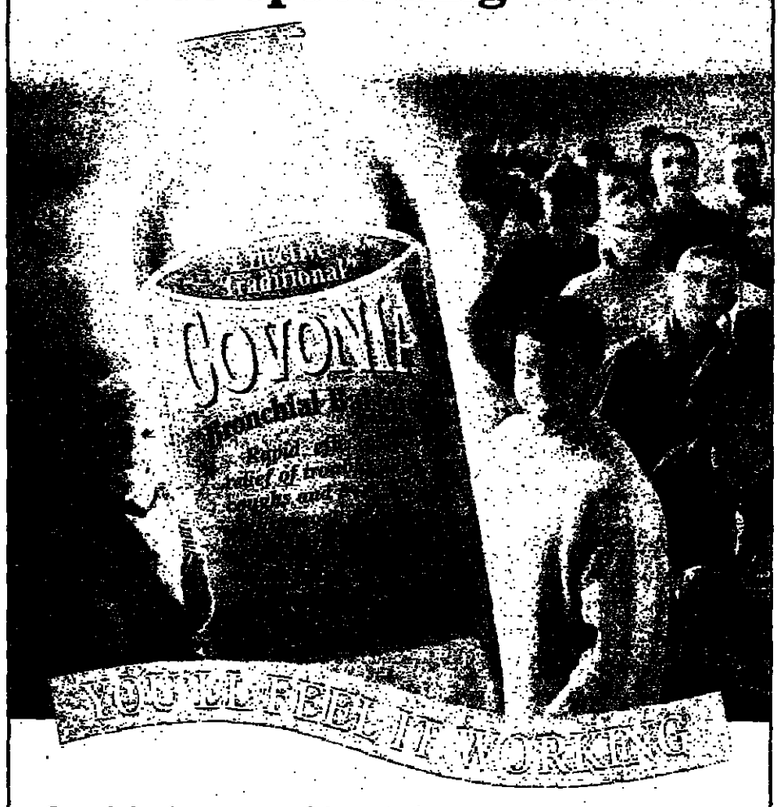
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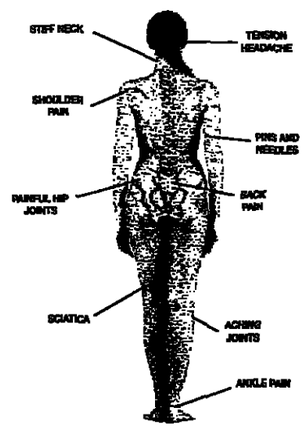
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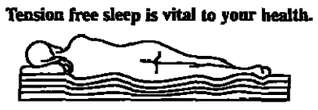
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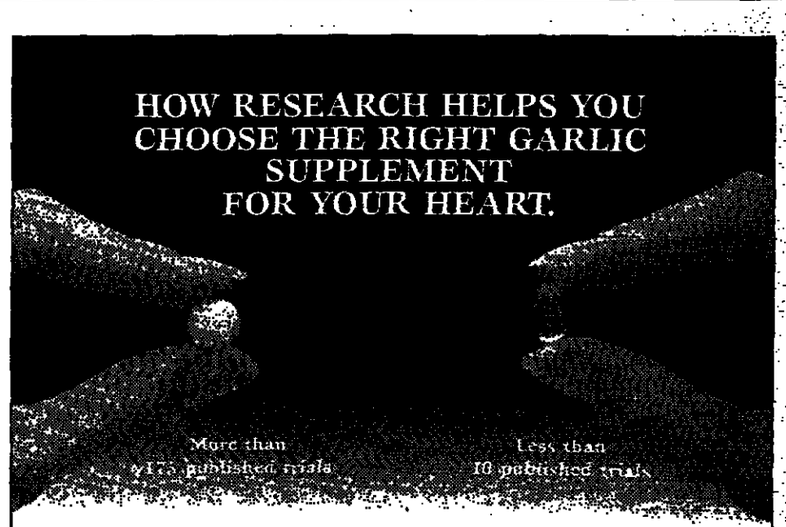
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Where would you have looked if you'd been Kissinger?

In the post-feminist era, even a statesman cannot cope with the protocol for a princess in her prime, Quentin Letts says

When even Henry Kissinger stalls, you know it is a dilemma. The former United States Secretary of State, scholar, statesman and policy supremo was acting as chief greeter on Monday night at a New York black-tie charity dinner. Enter the Princess of Wales, clad in a black dress that showed off to good effect her gymnasium-honed bosom.

What should a Nobel Prize winner do? How should any man, particularly one the height of Henry Kissinger, respond? When introduced to a woman who is demonstrating a terrific cleavage, should we compliment her on her figure? Or should we fix a fishy eye on, say, her left nostril and seek her considered verdict on the Bosnian peace accord?

Henry, as I say, stalled. His reaction was that of the pointer on a December shoot indicating the location of a fallen game-bird. It called to mind the look of a Scott or an Amundsen, pausing mid-trek on the edge of an Antarctic crevasse to wipe his brow and stare in wonderment at the deep, icy cavern below. It was Kissinger's bad luck, but our good fortune, that a photographer caught the moment as the learned doctor peered, astonished, at the Princess's embonpoint.

In these cold, pioneering days of post-feminism, men have yet to work out a protocol. We have yet to come to terms with the new deal: that it is all right for the two sexes to rejoice in their differences. The Kissinger poser is being repeated at countless dinner parties and gala dinners as men realise that they have no clue how to react, in late 1995, to the sight of an advancing bust.

American women, like their British sisters, have embraced "glam" as the mid-Nineties look and are flashing off everything at their disposal: jewels, teeth, torpedoes. The new fashion word in New York this autumn is "swank". Indoor fountains, wall-length mirrors, the Monagesque Royal Family and blonde second wives, after years of ribaldry, are deemed acceptable. Fur sales are up by 20 per cent and you are once more permitted to expect small children and Italian waiters to be seen and not heard.


JOHN STILLWELL

The Princess of Wales dines as Henry Kissinger looks on

Into this same bracket falls what an American president might term "the bosom thing". The late Eighties were a time of mental conformity and monochrome social comment. Slim-hipped androgyny was seized on as the least culpable state of existence and women strapped down their fronts with the moral equivalent of masking tape. We returned to the Twenties, when gamine flat chests were the obvious look for a generation which had lost so many of its young men to the Great War.

A few doughty creatures resisted. Madonna's conical bra by Jean-Paul Gaultier wriggled against received wisdom. Eva Herzegovina buoyed our spirits, and this autumn's fashion shows confirmed the return of that indispensable item, the petticoat. At last — hooray! — the drabness has passed. A woman, if she engages the assistance of the Gossard corporation, is now no longer letting down the side for women. She is using her God-given components and only gravity is defied. The majority of men secretly think this is great, but in New York they remain uncertain if it is all right to say so.

In Mid-Western states such as Kentucky and Tennessee there is less angst. If a girl looks good, the good ol' boy will say so, probably with a complimentary emission of chewing tobacco towards the spittoon. In Latin America, post-feminism has not been a problem as they never had feminism in the first place, and have yet to encounter the horror that is Andrea Dworkin.

But along the east and west coasts of the US, and particularly in Manhattan, with the remnants of its Upper West Side liberalism and hideous guilt complexes, post-feminist man remains unsteady on his pins.

He is racked with anguish about body politics — so out of step now with the body politic — and sees before him the spectre of sexual harassment. It is not that he fears an old-fashioned slap in the face. The late Eighties sanction was far more terrifying: peer disapproval and accusations of being a moral dinosaur.

All this flashes in an instant through the mind of the modern man placed in the situation which confronted Henry Kissinger on Monday night. What should he have done? Poor Henry. The fact that he had to incline his head towards the Princess in a formal bow did not help, as it brought the fevered Kissinger brow ever closer to the Spencer bodice.

Nor, frankly, do the words "Your Royal Highness" flow automatically into something along the lines of "Wow — great Zeppelins!" To have turned to the attendant press cameras and have given a meaty thumbs-up might have been considered coarse, and there was also Mrs Kissinger to consider. She was near by, and reportedly not best pleased.

We should forgive the man, therefore. The dilemma he faced was, literally, global.

Taking on Tony Blair

Elizabeth Noel has the unenviable task of standing for the Tories in the Labour leader's constituency. Is she downhearted? Anne McElvoy finds out


PETER NICHOLLS

Elizabeth Noel: "Every woman wants to look her best when tackling something important"

Few aspiring parliamentary candidates would warm to the task of overturning a 14,859 majority deep in enemy territory against a sitting MP who happens to be the popular Leader of the Opposition.

Worse still when your own party is preparing for the next general election in jitters about its safe seats, let alone those like Sedgefield, Co Durham, where they could put up the proverbial donkey with a red rosette round its neck and it would win.

But Lizzie Noel, fresh from her selection by the battling local Conservative association, looks undaunted, delighted and indeed a little bemused at being selected to give Tony Blair a run for his money around the villages of South Durham.

At 28, she was the youngest candidate by far on the shortlist of three. It was her first attempt to secure a nomination, although she has canvassed since 1990 in London and the Home Counties. "It seemed like incredible beginner's luck to me," she says. "I was quite scared before the interviews and expected a real grilling from the constituency women. They have the reputation in the Tory party of being far harder on female candidates than on men. But when they came to tell me I'd got it, the women were jumping up and down and hugging me. I thought I was going to swoon."

> 'I was expecting a grilling from the Tory women'

Petite, blonde and with open, earnest features, Ms Noel is well connected among the rising generation of Conservative politicos in London. A descendant of the Earl of Gainsborough, she comes from a landed Gloucestershire family but lives alone in a beautifully designed West London house. Always exquisitely dressed — today in pinstripe trouser suit and Gucci mohair coat — she says everyone always asks her about her clothes. "My first instinct was to say: 'You wouldn't ask that of a male candidate,' but now I'm trying hard to be polite and I just say that every woman wants to look her best when she is tackling something important to her. I can't change what I am and I hope that people will accept that."

Her political ambitions have not blunted Ms Noel's directness, nor her wicked sense of humour. At a dinner given recently by a friend notorious for dragooning people into endless dull charity events, she announced not quite *sotto voce*: "I can hardly believe it Violet: at last you've invited me to something free!"

As soon as her selection was announced, Central Office was on the telephone purveying anxious advice. "They told me not to be photographed on a swing — as if I would — and always to wear a jacket in public. It's been a jolly steep learning curve, all this image-making stuff." She was Central Office's preferred choice, a status which often proves more of a burden than an advantage for aspiring candidates. But with Ms Noel's nomination, the "stupid party" has behaved rather cleverly. Fraught spin-doctors at Smith Square thought hard about whom to front against the horribly popular Mr Blair and decided to play Labour at its own game by choosing a young, personable and politically moderate professional woman — the sort of person you might expect to find in new Labour.

In fact, you very nearly did. Ms Noel was a Labour supporter in her early twenties and worked as a researcher for Kevin McNamara, the party's front-bench spokesman on Northern Ireland. "That was the time of my inner conversion," she recalls. "I had been on the Left because I thought that the Labour Party cared more about people. Gradually I realised that that is an empty promise unless you deliver the prosperity and protection which really changes people's lives. I started to question the honesty of Labour's claim in this direction. And I realised how differently I saw the world from people like Kevin." She still has cordial relations with her old boss, however: he indirectly wished her luck, telling a Tory member who teased him about his old researcher running against the Labour leader: "She's far too good for your party."

The daughter of the Hon Gerard Noel, the writer and former editor of the *Catholic Herald*, she is an old girl of that alma mater of high-born English Catholics, St Mary's, Ascot. From there she went to Manchester College, Oxford, where she read philosophy: her background makes her sensitive to the inverted snobbery on the Left. "I know new Labour is supposed to be different, but underneath its emphasis on achievement and success I still think that there are aspects of Labour which are suspicious and resentful of other people's good fortune."

In a party keen on pronouncing loudly on law and order, she is one of the few people qualified to comment from experience. For two and a half years, she worked in the psychology department at Wormwood Scrubs prison and is now writing a book on penal reform. One of her main tasks was developing corrective strategies for life prisoners. It left her disillusioned about the ability of the penal system to change the way people behave. "In the end, they stop being criminals because it is a boring life-choice and not because the system has corrected them."

Sedgefield's Conservative voters need not fear that their candidate will be soft on crime. At the party conference this year, she stole the home affairs debate with recommendations that prisoners should work for a living. She seems to have a fondness for Michael Howard verging on a political crush, and prefaces a lot of sentences with "As the Home Secretary says . . ." "We shouldn't forget that punishment is important to society," she adds. "People have the right to expect the state to treat serious offenders strictly. We should not be embarrassed about punishing wrong behaviour."

The next minute she is describing her dealings with the lifers in Wormwood Scrubs with nostalgic affection. "I was supposed to have a current affairs discussion with them once a week. What a farce! Why on earth should you care about the state of the nation when you only ever see your cell and the prison yard? So we used to watch cricket together instead. One day the deputy governor caught us all cheering at the Test match. I explained that cricket had contributed more to good race relations in Britain than anything the Commission for Racial Equality ever managed, so they let me carry on."

Ms Noel is, I suspect, still undergoing more of an internal tussle about claims of penal rigour versus the "tremendous pity" she feels, as an initiate and as a practising Roman Catholic, for the long-term incarcerated.

She delivers her convictions with passion accompanied by the occasional nervous flicker and attack of self-consciousness. "I'm talking an awful lot," she says, staring ruefully at her uneaten lunch, "I suppose that's what I'm supposed to do now, isn't it?" In time, the passion will be replaced by the sheen of a natural politician's presentation skills. For now, her raw enthusiasm is itself a commodity.

"Con. gain" are not words likely to flash on to our TV screens from Sedgefield on election night. Her task makes Sisyphus's toils look easy, although no one will work harder to shave a few slivers off Labour's sovereign majority. I confidently predict defeat at the polls for Lizzie Noel — and certain success thereafter.

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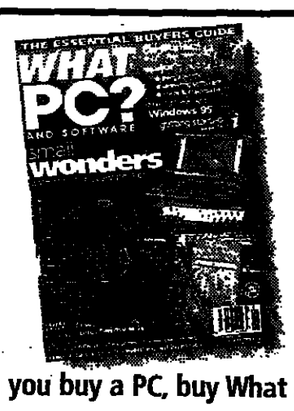
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INSIDE SECTION 2

You'll believe a pig can talk: the marvellous *Babe* will be the movie hit of the holidays, says Geoff Brown Page 35

WHAT makes choosing a bargain computer for Christmas easy PC?
WHAT title helps everyone in the family get the most out of their PC?
WHAT takes the worry and risk out of investing in your first PC?



Before you buy a PC, buy What PC?

Janet Daley



■ To allow a plea of slow-burning provocation is to cast women as forever disadvantaged

Sara Thornton is to be sent for retrial. The Court of Appeal refused yesterday to reduce her murder conviction to manslaughter on grounds of provocation. They decided instead that there was fresh medical evidence that Mrs Thornton was suffering from a personality disorder when she killed her husband. That evidence will now be put before a fresh jury, who must evaluate it as they see fit.

What is of wider public concern is the argument which began as an interesting contest between feminism and the law, but which can also be understood as part of a larger debate about when physical violence can be justified or excused in a law-abiding society. And whether violence by certain kinds of people is more excusable than that by others. As we become more and more preoccupied with violence and the need to deal with it, such dilemmas will have to be resolved.

The Thornton case was taken to be a test of whether women can lay claim to the same plea as men when they have been violent. There has never been any question that Mrs Thornton killed her husband, Malcolm. What was at issue was whether that killing was to be defined as "murder", which requires a mandatory life sentence, or "manslaughter", which permits judges much more discretion in sentencing. There was no question either about whether the killing of Mr Thornton involved premeditation. Mrs Thornton confessed to stabbing him while he was in an unconscious stupor (induced partly by substances she had administered to him), having first sharpened the knife with which she did so.

> The Court of Appeal has struck a blow for equality

The public debate about the charge of murder centred on whether the crime was committed "under provocation", a description that sometimes does count as a defence for men guilty of killing their spouses. Men who are "provoked" into thoughtless violence which results in the death of their female partners may plead that their temporary loss of self-control meant that they were not responsible for their actions.

That is, they did not rationally *intend* to kill, and so their acts must be regarded as the lesser crime of manslaughter, because they were not *deliberate* in the way that the law understands that word.

In reaching such verdicts, juries are usually advised to take both the behaviour of the dead spouse and the mental state of the accused into account. But the male defence of provocation is really an acknowledgement of the obvious truth that when men, particularly, lose control of their tempers they may end up causing damage which they did not foresee. Which is why such a defence has not generally been thought to apply to women who kill their spouses.

On the whole, women are not physically capable of overpowering and killing men with their bare hands. So they almost never find themselves in a position to use spontaneous "loss of control" as a defence. Thus, men have a systematic advantage in the domestic killing stakes. Sexual egalitarianism being what it is, this state of affairs could not be allowed to continue. What feminist groups campaigned for was legal recognition of a female equivalent to the male prerogative of "provocation".

No one denies that women too may be driven to the end of their tether. If that desperate state of mind (eloquently enough described as "slow-burning impotent resentment") causes them to kill their spouses with the degree of premeditation which their relative physical weakness requires — taking advantage of the man's unconsciousness, procuring a weapon, and so on — should that not count as a version of "killing under provocation"? Almost certainly not. The distinguishing feature of acting under provocation must be the lack of premeditation. Planned murder is planned murder, however sympathetic the perpetrator may be. To excuse anyone who executes such plans is simply to license revenge killing.

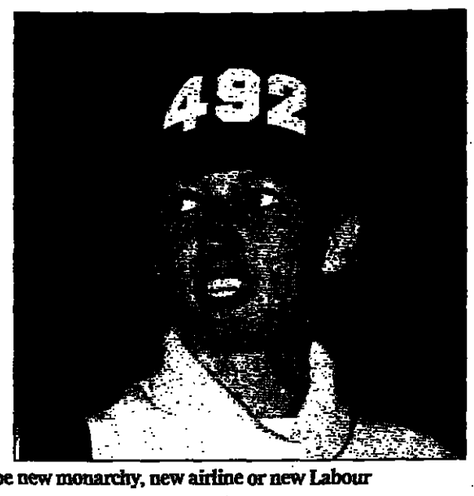
Which is not to say that Sara Thornton (and other women who have killed under such circumstances) may not have had their personalities so affected by the treatment they received that they were suffering from diminished responsibility. But in refusing implicitly to widen the definition of "provocation", the Court of Appeal has actually struck a blow for female equality. It has refused to weaken the test of moral responsibility for what we would all be furious to hear described as "the weaker sex". But that is not the way feminists see it. They want special treatment for women, whom they see as perennially disadvantaged.

In the same spirit perhaps, the law has been coming down heavily on victims of crime who have used violence to defend themselves or their property — so much so that the Crown Prosecution Service has now warned the police to lighten up.

Is this not the logical end of the victim culture? Women and criminals — the deprived and disadvantaged of society — must be protected from the consequences of their own actions. Even if that means redefining the crime of murder.







Hats on to the modernists: these brand leaders all us the same rhetoric, whether it be new monarchy, new airline or new Labour

New heroes of the 1990s

Headgear and humming-birds herald a fresh age of modernism

William Rees-Mogg

My attitude to modernism is mixed. I do not share all its beliefs, but I admire its influence. My own view of the world is temperamentally Tory. I have felt from birth that things now are not what they were in my day: my day belongs to the 1730s when George II was on the throne, Robert Walpole was in Downing Street, William Hogarth was England's rising painter, Alexander Pope was writing his Moral Essays, George Frederick Handel was composing oratorios and Lord Burlington was designing Palladian villas. There has been nothing like it since.

Yet that does not set me against the 1990s. I have lived through several worse decades: there was not much to be said for the 1930s, when one had to balance the dancing of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers against the actions of Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini; the 1940s were heroic but tragic: the 1950s were grey and threatening; the 1960s were lively but trashy; the 1970s were inflationary; I rather enjoyed the Thatcherite and Reaganite 1980s, which so much annoyed some people. Compared to earlier decades, the 1990s seem quite pleasant, though it is a pity about the decline of Europe.

Although no modernist myself, I did work on *The Sunday Times* in the 1960s, when we were the newspaper of the *Zeitgeist*, with Mark Boxer editing the colour magazine and Tony Snowdon taking the photographs. There was even a pop song which had the refrain: "Thank you very much for *The Sunday Times*, / Thank you very, very, very, very much." One could not work in such an atmosphere without appreciating the energy that comes from being precisely in tune with the mood of the moment. The 1960s Kennedy myth, of youth, of new ideas, of freshness, of vigour, of fashion itself, destroyed the Tory predominance of the Macmillan period. In the run-up to the 1964 election, Harold Wilson campaigned, skilfully if not quite convincingly, on the Kennedy themes.

It seems that the new age has come round again, as it does every 30 years or so. In the 1920s it was symbolised by the Prince of Wales, later Edward VIII, by cocktails and jazz, by the flappers and by Evelyn Waugh's set at Oxford. In the 1960s, it was symbolised by the Beatles, by Mary Quant and King's Road fashion, by the photographers led by Lord Snowdon himself. In the 1990s the leading symbolic figure is the Princess of Wales, but there are others; the 1990s seems to have a larger share of caring than the 1960s, when dropping out was more fashionable.

As a symbol, the Princess of Wales's baseball cap seems to have fascinated the public. There is much curiosity about the significance of number 492 on the front. There is serious discussion about the right way to wear such a cap, whether in her style with the peak in front, or with it behind. I had at first assumed that the camera angle had obscured the number "1" before the 492, and that the Princess was celebrating, rather belatedly, the quincentenary of Columbus's voyage to America. I should have known better. Columbus is a notorious Dwem (Dead White European Male), perhaps the greatest Dwem of them all. He is therefore part of the enemy, not of the modern style.

The Princess is no doubt our leading contemporary cultural icon, but there are others whom the cap would fit. In October 1992, when the world was younger than it is today, St John's, Smith Square, gave a charity concert. As we were then living nearby, we were asked to host the reception before the dinner that followed. It thus came about that I introduced Richard Branson to the Princess of Wales; it was the first time I had met either of them, and was, I think, the first time they had met one another. Yet he is another famous child of the *Zeitgeist*. As we used to say in the 1960s, "He is where it is at". Branson could wear the baseball cap and not look at all ridiculous.

Nor would Tony Blair, who has the most contemporary grin in the business, a sort of update of Tommy Steele's in the 1960s. He is far more genuine and effective in this contemporary role than Harold Wilson ever was. Look how successful these modernists all are: the Princess has played a difficult hand as though she held all the trumps — whether one likes it or not, it has been a brilliant political performance; Richard Branson is turning a niche into a network; Tony Blair has made Labour an almost universal party of the people. They all use the same rhetoric: new monarchy, new airline, new Labour. It is as though they had anticipated the imagination of the public, and could manipulate the subconscious of the 1990s.

Modernism has also always had its failures. Edward VIII turned out to be a flop; his appeal was simply his contrast to the conservatism of his father, King George V. Nick Leeson is another New Age failure; the reason that the serious-minded people at the head of Barings Bank let him lose so much of their money may have been that they thought he was modern and they were not. There have been photographs of Leeson wearing a cap not unlike the Princess's: he too is a child of his time.

In politics, Tony Blair can wear the cap with assurance, but John Major cannot. Indeed the 1990s are politically rather similar to the 1960s: the Tories have simply gone out of fashion: it is out of sympathy with the new people, the new ideas, even the new language. Some Tory Members of Parliament resented the Princess's *Panorama* interview. She did, without in the least intending to, make them look absurdly old-fashioned and stuffy, which some of them are. She merely wanted to persuade a couple of hundred million people that the circle around her husband had been hostile to her and was out of date. She succeeded. Up popped Nicholas Soames and Patrick Cormack to persuade the world that they were just as bad. Indeed the enemies of the modern movement seldom look good; Richard Branson's competitors always turn out to look like bullies, and like rather sleazy bullies at that.

Each time this public mood comes round, one hears the same refrain: "Don't you realise, we're living in the 1920s?" — which became "the 1960s", and now "the 1990s". The urge to ring out the old and ring in the new is the ragtime tune of every generation. The modernists can and probably should be laughed at. They tend to lack a sense of history or irony, though they often have a good sense of fun. The movement produces its quota of zealots, unrestrained by the limitations of past experience, and of charlatans, who strike poses to astonish the crowd. Yet the charlatans themselves often have something interesting to say. Percy Bysshe Shelley was a tiresome poseur, but beyond question he was also a great poet.

If one strikes a balance, democratic modernism almost certainly does more good than harm; it is totalitarian modernism we need to be afraid of. Goebbels exploited these same themes in his black propaganda. Though I do not share their temperamental view, I have no doubt that John F. Kennedy was good for America, that the Princess of Wales is good for the British monarchy, or that Richard Branson is a stimulus for British business. Modernism in the 1990s is not only fashionable, but has elements of compassion, energy and hope which human nature always responds to. As Alexander Pope observed, "The dull may waken to a humming-bird". The dull are wide awake now.

The power of modernism is something people fail to recognise at their peril. The Prince's friends should have seen from the beginning that the Princess was, at least, a most formidable adversary. British Airways should have seen that Richard Branson could not easily be bullied or brushed aside. The Conservative Party has every reason to be afraid of Tony Blair. Admittedly, the modernists of the 1990s are packages rather than intellectual innovators.

The Princess of Wales is a package, brilliantly self-formulated; Richard Branson is the business package; Tony Blair has packaged himself and new Labour as well. We are being sold carefully controlled images. The outcomes of these campaigns are not yet predictable. I think there probably will be some sort of new monarchy, perhaps mediated by the Queen herself. I do not know whether Richard Branson will be eaten by the airline ogres or will still be singing as the curtain falls. I am fairly sure that new Labour will be the next government, but I suspect that new Tories may form the one after. Yet I am sure what the public mood is: this is the hour of the humming-bird.

Join us over Europe

Robin Cook asks Tory moderates to vote with Labour

The Tory party's truce over Europe is dead. It was always fragile, but it was ruthlessly put down by yesterday's outbreak of dialogue by megaphone.

The depth of the divide was revealed by John Redwood's contradicting himself within hours of his press conference. If such a senior figure is unsure whether he is launching a campaign to persuade the Prime Minister or to agree with him, it is not surprising the public is confused.

This latest Euro-flurry is only one more incident on the route march forced upon it by the Euro-phobe wing, which over the past year has set about converting the Conservative Party into the English Nationalist Party. Such is its evangelical fervour that it has convinced half the Cabinet, and half-convinced the party leader, that the Conservative Party could scrape through an election by playing the nationalist card and claiming Labour would give away Scotland to the Scots and be soft on Brussels.

But this gambit hangs upon a travesty of Labour's position. Labour is not committed to a federal superstate. We intend to devolve power down to local communities and regions of Britain, not to centralise it up to Brussels. We can outbid the Tories in any electoral auction over subsidiarity, for we offer real subsidiarity within Britain. Nor will we abandon the veto on areas of strategic importance. We will retain it on matters such as the European budget, taxation, border controls and foreign and security issues.

On the single currency, Labour says that Britain's condition for entry must be convergence of economic performance in the real world of jobs, industrial output and productivity. And Tony Blair has repeatedly said that any decision on joining a single currency can only be taken with the consent of the British people.

We offer a constructive engagement in Europe, not because we are carried away by any grand European design, but because we know it is the only way to obtain the best deal for the people of Britain. Most of our exports go to the continent, and it is vital for British jobs that we coordinate economic policy to maximise its impact on employment. The quality of our environment depends on common action with our neighbours to reduce the pollution in our air and on our shores. And peace for our country depends on stability on the continent, for which the best guarantee is enlargement of a healthy EU to support the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe.

That brings me to the second problem the Tories have in playing on a nationalist wicket. Public opinion about Europe is much more complex and subtle than the stark simplicities of Mr Redwood and his friends. The public does not like the idea of Britain being bullied by other nations or themselves being told what to do by Brussels. But it will not thank a Government that contrives always to be on the losing side in Brussels and so pushes Britain to the sidelines of Europe. What the public wants is a British Government that will show leadership in Europe and demonstrate its strength, not by standing alone but by winning its arguments.

The real weakness of the Government's approach to next year's intergovernmental conference is that it is passive. The repeated assurances by Malcolm Rifkind that Britain is prepared to veto everyone else's proposals cannot conceal that he goes in the conference without any programme of his own, far less a strategy for building alliances.

The final problem that a nationalist ticket gives the Conservatives is that the public is too intelligent to imagine that isolation is a viable strategy in a world increasingly dominated by global economic forces. The business community knows that the rhetoric of Michael Portillo may win votes at party conference, but will not win orders in the international market place. A recent CBI survey of business opinion found that three out of five member companies believe that the controversy over Europe has hindered the promotion of Britain's interests.

Our allies outside Europe do not want Britain isolated within it. The path to negotiating a transatlantic free trade area runs through the conference rooms of Brussels. We weaken our influence from Washington to Canberra if we weaken our influence in Europe.

It would be ungenerous for even a Labour politician not to recognise that many Tory MPs understand this. The Euro-phobes are a minority in the Tory party, which itself has a bare majority in Parliament. There is a cross-party majority in Parliament for a strategy of constructive engagement in Europe. The large question for next year's conference is whether those Tory MPs who know that Britain's future lies in Europe will be willing to assert this parliamentary majority. It requires them to show the courage to save Britain from being marginalised in Europe and to save their own party from a retreat into narrow nationalism which belongs to a past century of nation-states, rather than next century's global economy.

The author is Shadow Foreign Secretary.

Baton battles

TWO OF BRITAIN'S most famous orchestras yesterday appeared to be heading for a shotgun wedding, after the players of the Royal Philharmonic sacked their managing director, Paul Findlay, and their marketing consultant, Ewen Balfour.

The players cited a "real lack of confidence" in the pair, and said that the orchestra's deficit had been rising alarmingly throughout the year. "We will never allow ourselves to go bust," blasted John Birnson, the horn player who chairs the orchestra's board.

There are no plans to appoint another MD, which raises the prospect of a merger of the RPO with its arch-rival, the London Philharmonic. Lord Young of Graffham raised the idea some time ago, and it may have to be resurrected. The London Philharmonic also parted company with its MD this year, and has yet to replace him.

Lord Young claimed that his plan could save both orchestras £600,000 in office expenses and at the same time build a "super-orchestra" for Britain. At first the players of both orchestras turned up their noses, preferring their cherished independence. But now they sound so desperate that a merger cannot be ruled out. "We may well meet to look at our mutual problems," concedes Birnson.

● *An extraordinary story is doing the rounds which can only do credit to the entrepreneurial approach of the new Editor of the* Sunday Express, *Sue Douglas. She is said to have invited the Princess of Wales to be a columnist on the newspaper where Princess Alexandra's daughter Marina cut her journalistic teeth. The queen of hearts has yet to reply.*



"Must they make a song and dance about it?"

This little piggy

ALTHOUGH it doesn't open until tomorrow, people are already kicking up dirt over the new hit film *Babe*, about a piglet which bucks the farmyard hierarchy by winning the prize at a sheepdog trial. For fear of offending sensitive cinema-goers, the star-turn, a male piglet called *Babe*, is played by a female.

Dick King-Smith, author of the original story, says the sex change is "ridiculous", but acknowledged that the maturity of the male pigs might raise eyebrows. "It was thought that a back view of a well-endowed male might not be acceptable," he said. "But I don't think kids would even notice."

Poking fun

KEN LIVINGSTONE was boasting about his garden pond and green fingers on Tuesday night when he was brought quickly to task at Speaker's House. The occasion followed the first recording of *Gardeners' Question Time* at the Commons, and the programme was introduced by that flower of the House, Betty Boothroyd.

Madame Speaker rushed up to the MP for Brent East to ask for more details about his question to the panel. "Why are you struggling with your red-hot pokers?" she demanded. He had explained during the recording (which will be broadcast on Christmas Eve) that they keep on dying — 25 years on and three gardens later.

"Obviously your soil's far too rich," pronounced the former Tiller-girl, fag in hand, before she swooped upon the next MP to profess horticultural interests.

● *A timely Christmas card reached me yesterday — obviously in anticipation of the Bosnian peace treaty. The faces of Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia and his wife and three sons beam out opposite a Christmas message and the legend "Peace".*

One's kiss

THE TENSION between the BBC and Buckingham Palace is palpable after the Princess of Wales's *Panorama* interview. Matters may not have been helped by a documentary to be shown next week about the Royal Yacht, *Britannia*.

Surfing the new wave of royal coverage, the programme shows what is said to be the first kiss on television between the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. Although the makers refuse to comment on the contents, sources within the television industry suggest that the moment of intimacy, so sadly wanting in other royal marriages, should improve relations between the Palace and the corporation.

Buckingham Palace, however, would not be drawn.

● *Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, had the temerity to ask the empress Thatcher of her views on the strike in France. "Wonderful," she replied, with a radiant glow. For whom, though?*

P·H·S



Clinched: royal appointment

ONE QUARTER

The Chancellor's caution is endangering his own forecast

When Kenneth Clarke delivered his Budget last month, he promised that the economy would grow by 3 per cent next year even if interest rates did not fall. This forecast was met with some incredulity, as it presumed a significant acceleration of economic activity at a time when, if anything, growth seemed to be slowing. Now that the Chancellor has finally decided to cut interest rates, albeit by a slender quarter point, does this make his prediction more realistic?

This cut will have to be the first of several if Mr Clarke is to have even a chance of achieving a decent rate of growth next year. As the "three wise men" who are all that is left of the Chancellor's team of outside economic advisers said in a letter on this page yesterday, the indicators suggest a further weakening in the next few months. Yet Mr Clarke's forecast "imply quite a dramatic improvement in economic conditions between the sluggishness of late 1995 and the relative buoyancy in early 1996."

Most of the evidence points in the opposite direction. Companies seem more likely at the moment to run down their stocks rather than increase production. The construction industry is suffering from recession. Moreover, as the wise men remind Mr Clarke, our European neighbours look set for a downturn, which would be bad news for British exports.

Even yesterday's apparently good statistics provide little cheer. Unemployment may have fallen in November by 20,400 but total employment has declined for the first time in two years. Fewer people are signing on, but they seem to be withdrawing from the labour market altogether rather than finding jobs. And although retail sales volume rose by 0.6 per cent in November this followed three months of extreme weakness. Over the past year, spending in the high street has risen by just 1 per cent.

So why is Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, demanding such caution of the Chancellor? He would argue that his brief is to keep inflation low, and that cutting interest rates could jeopardise that task. But is Britain really facing another bout of "stagflation" — low growth combined with rising prices? Hardly. The underlying inflation rate is just 2.9 per cent, dropping to 2.4 per cent if indirect taxes are stripped out. This figure is predicted to fall in the next few months. Meanwhile wage inflation remains very subdued.

Mr Clarke's behaviour thus seems all the more puzzling. Although we can accept a degree of hypersensitivity about inflation from central bank governors, politicians have a duty to look more widely. When the Chancellor gave his backbenchers a meagre Budget in November, they consoled themselves on two counts: interest rates would fall sharply, and taxes could be cut in next year's Budget instead. As it is, interest rates are being cut by the thinnest slices; and that very caution is making the prospect of tax cuts next year look more remote. For the result of lower-than-forecast growth will be higher public sector borrowing and even less room for manoeuvre. At this rate, Mr Clarke could find himself just as boxed in next year as he was last month.

Almost as damaging as the two men's caution has been their confusing behaviour over the past few weeks. Had they set out to lay false trails and to deliver a muddled message to markets, businesses and consumers, they could not have done better. Only last week, Mr George implied that interest rates should not be cut at all. And Mr Clarke has consistently dampened expectations of lower rates. This is no way to encourage investors, consumers and housebuyers — all of whom must contribute to the golden forecast of 3 per cent.

The Conservatives have now consistently trailed Labour for two years in polls on economic competence. This is partly due to Labour's popularity, but it also has something to do with the confusing presentation of government economic policy. Britain's economic performance has been steady to good since it left the ERM; but the hesitancy of the Chancellor's approach has deflected credit from where it is due. People could be forgiven for remembering fondly the days when the Chancellor simply stood up in the Commons and announced his interest rate cut at the end of the Budget.

PRINCELY ACHIEVEMENT

This year's awards for the nation's quiet civic heroes

The presentation of the tenth annual *Times*/Touche Ross Community Enterprise Awards by the Prince of Wales yesterday was a celebration of the best in British civic life. For a decade, the awards have been a means of acknowledging outstanding community leaders who, by their efforts and resourcefulness, improve their neighbours' quality of living. This year's winners, honoured yesterday at St James's Palace, epitomise the spirit of enterprise and social responsibility which the awards were founded to promote.

In South Shields, Tyne and Wear, the St Simon's Community Project has found work for 140 people and encouraged local debate about unemployment. In Newham, the most deprived borough in Britain, the South Canning Town Sculpture Garden offers an oasis of horticultural imagination to people with few pleasant amenities. The overall winner of the Charles Douglas-Home Award was the Old Chapel Housing and Community Trust in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Notts, an enterprise which has offered shelter to more than 4,000 homeless people in a depressed mining town. Although the 11 successful projects could scarcely be more different, they have in common an entrepreneurial mission to help communities out of dependency. State funding usually plays a part in such schemes; but local initiative is their life-blood.

The involvement of the Prince of Wales in the Community Enterprise Awards has been central to their success. The heir to the throne may not be the most glamorous member of the Royal Family but he is certainly the most visionary. Those who claim that he is out of touch with the problems of ordinary people do him an injustice. Greatly to the Prince's credit, he has invested his energy in charities and projects which produce few sensations but many long-term results. He has lent his support to causes which encourage people to help themselves, to start their own businesses and escape the cycle of deprivation.

The success of these activities — notably the Prince's Trust — has been striking. More than 60 per cent of the unemployed people on his schemes end up in work or further education. The top 100 businesses set up by the Prince of Wales Youth Business Trust employ 2,000 people with a turnover of £50 million. These achievements are not always in the headlines. But the quiet work carried out tirelessly by the Prince deserves unqualified respect and admiration.

In a speech last year, he praised the "unhistoric acts" which are the foundation of civilised life. This year's winners of the Community Enterprise Awards meet the challenge which he posed, performing such acts of dedicated kindness in the places where they are needed most.

NEW TOKYO

The Japanese Government is looking for a new home

Weary of the noise, size, clutter and claustrophobia of Tokyo, bureaucrats have been muttering for the past 30 years about moving out to pastures new, where "platform pushers" would not be needed to squash them into the commuter trains, streets could have proper names and the journey to the airport would take less time than the flight to Paris. Tokyo has a 70-year earthquake cycle. Spurred by the fact that the next quake is now two years overdue, the Government has taken the plunge and yesterday officially recommended relocating the capital. It does not know where to go, but knows what it wants: a site with no mountains, fresh rivers but not too much snow, a handy international airport and, above all, no earthquakes lurking beneath the tectonic plates.

It is a tall order, but at least 16 prefectures claim they have the perfect spot and are sparing no effort to win the order. It is, after all, a developer's dream that could keep the hard-hit building industry in sushi for years — about £90 billion worth of construction for the first decade and the promise that *le tout Tokyo*, some 30 million people, might move in once the city is finished. A smart developer's first task will be to find a home for the Emperor. The Japanese capital, by tradition, is where the Imperial family lives, and over 1,500 years it has wandered.

In medieval Europe a peripatetic court used to travel from city to city, castle to castle — usually because the stench of drains, or lack of them, grew overpowering after more than a few months. In more recent times, capitals have been moved for a variety of other reasons. Peter the Great wanted to escape the beards and peasant habits of the Moscow boyars, and migrated to the marshes of the Gulf of Finland to open his window on the West. Ataturk found the Sublime Porte in Constantinople too enmeshed in Ottoman history and created his Turkish vision of European suburbia in Ankara, a city previously known largely for a particular breed of rabbit.

Federations made up of jealous states took the easy way out by selecting for their capitals a marsh, a jungle or a patch of bare land: Washington, Brasilia and Canberra are the results. Some capitals, such as Lagos, simply silted up and were abandoned by military strongmen. And others, such as Berlin, were lost in war and had to be replaced with temporary expedients.

Bonn was never more than a village however hard it tried. An unkind American reporter remarked in the early 1950s that it was "half the size of a Chicago graveyard and twice as dead" and the epithet stuck. It was not until about 1975 that people in Washington stopped asking "Have you tried *the* French restaurant yet?" The omens for Tokyo's provincial successor are therefore not good. The Emperor may move; the bullet trains may shuttle Tokyans to new offices; and the planners may establish a population of 600,000 by 2010. But would all those salarymen really want to live so close to home? What excuse could they then give for staying in town after a business evening of sake and geishas?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Cost of U-turn on NHS bureaucracy

From Dr J. P. Griffin, FRCP

Sir, Official figures show an increase in the number of general and senior managers in the National Health Service from 500 in 1986 to 20,000 in 1993 (report, December 5). Over the same period the number of nurses and midwives has fallen by 36,000.

At a meeting of the Working Party on Health Care Reforms in Europe, held in Kiel, Germany, from November 27 to 30, I stated that the costs of the Family Health Service Authority administration had "risen by 80 per cent and the cost of hospital administration by 1,700 per cent between 1985 and 1993". The current Department of Health figures show a 4,000 per cent increase in the number of administrators.

The Secretary of State now proposes to reduce the number by 10,000 (report, December 6). I have no sympathy with the bureaucratic edifice which has directed resources away from patient care. I do have sympathy, however, with those thousands of people who are going to lose their jobs as a result of a policy U-turn. Loss of job, and even the threat of it, creates significant mortality and morbidity, as medical studies have shown.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN P. GRIFFIN,
Quartermans,
Digswell Lane, Digswell,
Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.
December 8.

Disarming the IRA

From Mr Alan Leadbetter

Sir, John Major, speaking today after the IRA and Sinn Fein reiterated their old positions regarding disarmament ahead of talks, said that Sinn Fein must make up its mind, and questioned whether Mr Adams had been deceiving people.

His remarks cannot be justified. Sinn Fein's position has always been that the IRA will not disarm in advance of talks, and it has always been completely open about this.

One suspects that the emotion shown by government ministers when speaking about Northern Ireland is because they know they themselves have caused the impasse, by making a demand of the IRA that is of no practical value and, in any case, is clearly impossible for an organisation in the IRA's position to fulfil.

The Government says that it must insist on disarmament before talks, because without it, the Unionist parties will not talk.

I believe that the Government's attempts to pass the blame for the present situation — either on to Sinn Fein or on to the Unionist parties — do not hold water.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN LEADBETTER,
18 Madison Street,
Tunstall,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.
December 8.

From Mr John Winterbottom

Sir, Given the vast collection of explosives and weapons held by the terrorist organisations in Ireland, the need to decommission cannot be challenged. What seems unclear, however, is the ownership of these arms and the choice of actions after this process starts.

The respective arsenals have been acquired over many years and at very considerable cost. Are they to be purchased by the respective governments or agencies? Can they then be re-sold on the international market, or will they be locked away in some secure establishment, or just destroyed?

A little light shone on these questions would not come amiss.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WINTERBOTTOM,
Orchard House,
Kiln Hill, Soberton,
Southampton, Hampshire.
December 8.

Seasonal shudder

From Mr R. D. Parkinson

Sir, I read with a shudder the extracts from Sir Graham Bright's dreadful family newsletter, *Bright News* (Diary, December 9).

It was in order to remove the need for such effusions that, in 1843, Sir Henry Cole, the first director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, commissioned the first Christmas card, beginning a multi-million-pound international industry of greetings-card manufacture.

The card is at present on display at the main entrance of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Yours faithfully,
R. D. PARKINSON,
13 Childebert Road, SW17.
December 12.

Oh dear

From Mr Reg Tizard

Sir, Iona Meek is intrigued by birth announcements for "baby boy" or "baby girl" (letter, December 6).

She will soon be overwhelmed by the story of the "infant child".

Yours faithfully,
REG TIZARD,
Boat Barn Cottage,
Westgate Street,
Blakeney, Norfolk.
December 6.

Raising the stakes on alcohol limits

From Dr Robert M. H. Lefever

Sir, The Secretary of State for Health, in raising the number of units of alcohol that may be considered safe to drink in any week (report and leading article, December 13), is acting on advice that misunderstands the nature of the problem.

For those who have an addictive nature it is the first use of any mood-altering substance in any day that does the damage: it leads to the next and then the next. There is a saying in Alcoholics Anonymous that one drink is too many and a hundred too few.

The concept of sensible drinking is for those who can do it — and they most commonly don't need the advice in the first place. Those who can't will continue to exceed whatever level the minister sets.

Sincerely,
ROBERT LEFEVER,
2a Pelham Street, SW7.
December 13.

From Mr Paul Ashton

Sir, In your leader on the new "safe" drinking limits, you say, correctly, that those of us who drink little "find those who drink a lot boring, irritating and embarrassing".

We also find drinkers under the influence of alcohol to be responsible for a large proportion of domestic violence cases, and of many other violent crimes. Despite "drink/drive" campaigns, we find that drink is linked to one in six road deaths.

Given these facts, it is beyond me why smokers (of whom I am not one) rather than drinkers are made social pariahs. Passive smoking is claimed, also by "scientific evidence", to be responsible for far less damage to third parties than drink. Further, although smokers may be unhealthy (relative to non-smokers), their habit does not make them boring, irritating or embarrassing.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL ASHTON,
37 Benbow Avenue,
Langney Point,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.
December 13.

From Mr Stanley Chappell

Sir, I enjoy a glass of wine. My problem is what is a glass? A local Chinese restaurant serves wine in 75ml glasses, I was brought up on 125ml whilst my local pub carvery serves wine in 175ml glasses, which is virtually four glasses to one bottle.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY CHAPPELL,
31 Brooks Road, Wylde Green,
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.
December 13.

From Mr J. B. Gresham

Sir, Has anyone, ever, refused a drink on the grounds that they have reached the government "safe limits" for that day or week?

Yours sincerely,
J. B. GRESHAM,
138 Duke Street,
Southport, Merseyside.
December 13.

From Mr Robin Tobin

Sir, Thanks to Stephen Dorrell I'm already beginning to experience the "feel-good" factor.

Yours etc,
R. TOBIN,
87a Melrose Avenue, NW2.
December 12.

The Princess and the homeless

From Mrs Mary E. Guppy

Sir, At last we have someone with a high profile ready to highlight the young people sleeping homeless on city streets. What happens? The political parties get embroiled in one of their usual arguments — with the Princess of Wales being used as a scapegoat [letters, December 9].

In the 1960s, when I was young and living in London, one very rarely saw homeless youngsters begging — now it is commonplace. This is not just a political matter: it is a subject which concerns everyone.

We should listen to the Princess of Wales, stop wrangling over petty matters, and allow both parties to work towards eradicating this dreadful state of affairs.

Yours faithfully,
M. E. GUPPY,
Little Bones, Welford Road,
South Kilworth, Leicestershire.
December 8.

From Mr Allan Hodgkinson

Sir, The Princess of Wales is fully justified in drawing attention to the terrible problem of youth homelessness and its repercussions.

The country's assessment of priorities is surely awry when over £70 million can be found for the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden at a time when there are young people in its vicinity who do not even have a roof above them.

Would it not be an investment in social cohesion to use the same sum to finance a number of basic hostels providing the necessities of life — shelter, warmth and food? Such a policy would go some way to avoid the alienation of the young people concerned, a factor we ignore at our peril.

Yours sincerely,
ALLAN HODGKINSON,
2 The Raikes,
Great Eccleston, Preston, Lancashire.
December 7.

From Miss Anne Budgett

Sir, On December 7, the day on which the Princess of Wales visited Centrepoint, thus making front-page news in all the media on the following day, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were carrying out a number of engagements in Staffordshire, visiting a sheltered-housing scheme, a business-link centre, a ceramics factory and a new hospital.

Prince Charles was at a meeting of a college of estate management in Berkshire and a military establishment in Buckinghamshire. Princess Anne was at meetings of the Princess Royal Trust for Carers and the executive committee of the Army Board, and attended a Save the Children Fund dinner.

Princess Margaret was at a council meeting of the British Museum Development Trust; the Duke of Gloucester visited a building-society headquarters and a truck-manufacturing company in Cheshire; and the Duke of Kent visited an aerospace engineering company in Nottingham and presented one of the Queen's Awards for Export Achievement in London.

Most people do not realise how much the Royal Family does for this country; and that, in my view, is the fault of the media's reporting.

Yours sincerely,
ANNE BUDGETT,
35 Mapledene,
Kemnal Road, Chislehurst, Kent.
December 8.

From the Reverend Douglas J. L. Bean

Sir, From my experience as a former vicar in a central London parish I believe that very many Londoners who do not use the beds available to them prefer the streets because they feel them to be safer and there is more companionship. Neither do they like being told to have a bath and have their clothes cleaned: they feel their independence is being taken away.

I dealt with about three to four tramps, or men of the road, every night for 22 years, and that was what I was so often told. Being in a flat was too lonely.

Yours sincerely,
DOUGLAS BEAN,
(Vicar of St Pancras, 1972-93).
The Vicarage,
Waltham St Lawrence, Berkshire.
December 8.

Royal headgear

From Mr J. C. Gunner

Sir, It seems that speculation continues about the Princess of Wales's baseball cap (feature, December 5; Diary, December 7). The numbers 492 are no mystery. The cap is part of the uniform for a USAF airman.

The 492nd Fighter Squadron is part of the 48th Fighter Wing based at RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk. The caps are worn to distinguish between the three squadrons on the aerodrome.

The intriguing question is why HRH would wear such a garment.

Yours,
JEREMY GUNNER,
Forge Cottage, Buckland, Surrey.

Not for gobbling

From Mr David Singleton

Sir, I was greatly relieved when Linda McCartney's secret envoy, Mrs Maynard-Rollings, outbid me at the Midlands Champion Turkey auction (report, later editions, December 7). With a blank cheque she raised the bidding to £3,000 in a frantic bid to free the turkey from the dinner table.

Presumably Mrs McCartney was not aware that for the last six years I have paid £500 to £1,200 for the annual champ, which I have then given to a school where it spends the rest of its days on their farm.

Yours,
DAVID SINGLETON
(General Manager),
Jefferson's Restaurant and Bar,
Stratford Road, Monkspath,
Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands.
December 12.

Double trouble

From Mr Alan Tayler

Sir, A letter received from my bank confirmed my very worst fears about the lengths to which they will pursue me — I have been assigned a "Shadow Relationship Manager".

Yours apprehensively,
ALAN TAYLER,
South Colwell Farm,
Colwell Lane,
Haywards Head, West Sussex.
December 7.

Business letters, page 29

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046.

London treaties great and small

From Mr A. J. Maltby

Sir, Your leading article, "Treaty, treaty on the wall" (December 9), says "the Crimean War was made all the more complex by its end in the Treaty of Kuchuk-Kainardjii: how tedious it would now seem if that pact had been done in Paris instead".

If the history that I have taught throughout my career is correct the Treaty of Kuchuk-Kainardjii ended the Russo-Turkish War, fought in Catherine the Great's reign in 1774. The Crimean War was concluded in 1856 by the Treaty of Paris.

Yours faithfully,
TONY MALTBY
(Headmaster, Trent College, 1968-88).
Little Singleton Farm,
Great Chart, Ashford, Kent.
December 11.

From Dr Raymond Hutchings

Sir, Your editorial claims that "There are no great treaties of Uttoxeter or Bude, nor even one of London". Signed on April 26, 1915, by Britain, Italy, France and Russia, the Treaty of London acknowledged that various annexations might be made by Italy, Montenegro, Greece and Serbia of Albanian territory, so that only an autonomous and neutral rump would be left.

Although the treaty was kept secret, its contents were learnt by Serbia. It was made public by the Bolsheviks following their revolution.

This infamous intended sacrifice of Albania for the sake of allied or prospectively allied powers eventually became inoperative because of the ejection by Albanians from their territory of Italian forces and a resolution on December 17, 1920, which led to Albania's admission to the League of Nations.

Yours faithfully,
R. HUTCHINGS,
168 Turnpike Link, Croydon, Surrey.

From Mr Robin Bowen-Williams

Sir, No great Treaty of London? Choose not to recall London (1839), which sorted out little Belgium's separation from Holland, but surely forget not London (1518), which united the Holy Roman Emperor and various kings, including Henry VIII, against the Turks and allowed Thomas Wolsey to proclaim himself "Arbiter of Christendom".

You can also have Bristol and Richmond, which sought to ease relations with Spain, and Greenwich (fostering an alliance with the Dutch). All were treaties from the 16th century.

Yours faithfully,
R. BOWEN-WILLIAMS,
130 Water Eaton Road, Bletchley,
Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.
December 9.

From Mr Christopher Kingston

Sir, Many of your Irish readers will wonder if "the 1972 treaty on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping" will have the long duration of influence enjoyed by its London counterpart of 1921.

The latter is known in Ireland as *The* Treaty, the very lack of the name "London" being a testament to its importance.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER KINGSTON,
45a Barton Road, W14.

From Mr A. I. Aust

Sir, There are precedents for naming a treaty after the place where it was negotiated, but not signed. The Treaty of Locarno was signed in the Foreign Office, the fine room where the ceremony took place being re-named the Locarno room.

And there is a London treaty of historical importance: the London Agreement, which established the Nuremberg Tribunal.

"Treaty" is a generic name. A treaty may be called "agreement", "convention", "pact", "protocol", even "memorandum of understanding". A treaty recently registered with the United Nations has the title "Timetable", having been drafted as the annex to a treaty on Russian troop withdrawals from Lithuania which itself was never signed.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY AUST,
5 Coulter Road, W6.

From Mr P. W. Still

Sir, Your view that there are no great treaties of London would no doubt have been shared by the German Chancellor, Bethmann Hollweg.

In August 1914, when Britain declared war on Germany for violating the Treaty of London (1839) by invading Belgium, Bethmann Hollweg referred to the treaty as a "scrap of paper".

Yours faithfully,
P. W. STILL,
9 Cavendish House,
Eastgate Gardens, Guildford, Surrey.

Tinkering with words

From Mrs E. Tross Youle

Sir, A propos "verbing" (letter, December 8), I heard on Radio 4 yesterday that the new Archbishop of York was "fanfared" at his enthronement.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH TROSS YOULE,
18 Hamilton Avenue,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.
December 9.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 13: His Excellency Mr Tudor Botnaru was received in audience by *The Queen* and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Moldova to the Court of St James's.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

Mr David Wright was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador to Japan.

Mrs Wright was also received by The Queen.

Her Majesty held a Council at 12.30pm.

There were present: the Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President), the Rt Hon Michael Heseltine MP (First Secretary of State), the Rt Hon Michael Forsyth MP (Secretary of State for Scotland), the Rt Hon John Gummer MP (Secretary of State for the Environment), the Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP (Secretary of State for Social Security), the Rt Hon Sir John Wheeler MP (Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office), and the Rt Hon Jeremy Hanley MP (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Mr Nigel Nicholls was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

December 13: The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, this evening attended The Princess Royal's Industry Committee Air Studios Evening at Air Studios (Chrysalis), Lyndhurst Hall, Lyndhurst Road, Hampstead, London NW3.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 13: the Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, this morning visited the Bromley-by-Bow Community Centre, London E3.

His Royal Highness afterwards visited St James's Church Hall, Packington Street, Islington, London N1.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon held the tenth Annual Community *Enterprise Awards* at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, later opened the new trust shop in the King's Walk Shopping Centre, King's Road, London SW3.

The Prince of Wales afterwards received the Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury).

His Royal Highness this evening held a Reception for the Bristol Cancer Help Centre at St James's Palace.

The Prince of Wales later attended the Urban Villages Forum Christmas Meeting at Leighton House, Holland Park, London W14.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 13: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Carol Concert held at the Guards Chapel, Wilfington Barracks, London SW1, in aid of Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

December 13: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the Westminster Society, this evening attended a Reception at the Lord Mayor's Parlour, Westminster City Hall, London SW1.

YORK HOUSE
December 13: The Duke of Kent, Patron, Leukaemia Research Fund, this morning visited the Cellular Development Unit, UMIST, Manchester, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester (Colonel John Timmins).

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Manchester Luncheon Club Manchester Town Hall, Manchester; Trinity Bridge and an exhibition on the proposed Chapel Wharf, Manchester City Centre, Salford, and opened the One-Stop Resource Centre for the Disabled, Stephenson Road, Sale, Trafford, Greater Manchester.

Captain Marcus Barnett was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the new headquarters of Rotortech at Howe Moss Drive, Aberdeen Airport, at 12.05.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of *the National Association of Victim* Support Schemes, will attend the meeting of the advisory board at Church House at 10.20; and, as Patron of SENSE - The National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, will visit the Ealing Family Centre, 86 Cleveland Road, Ealing, at 3.30.

Princess Margaret will attend the Olympia international show-jumping championships at Olympia at 6.45.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of the Institute of Advanced Motorists, will attend a luncheon *at the Society of Motor Manufacturers* and Traders at Forbes House, Halkin Street, SW1, at 12.45 to mark the 40th anniversary of the institute.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will attend a lecture at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies at 12.40; and, as President of the Engineering Council, will attend a farewell dinner for the outgoing chairman, Sir John Fairclough, at Boodles at 7.45.

The Duchess of Kent, as President, will confer degrees at the congregation of awards ceremony at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, at 12.30 and 7.25.

Birthdays today

Mr David Band, chief executive, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, 53; Captain the Hon Sir Nicholas Beaumont, 66; Mr Vivian Bendall, MP, 57; Professor Richard Cassilly, operatic tenor, 68; General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick, 83; the Right Rev J.B.R. Grindrod, former Archbishop of Brisbane and Primate of Australia, 76; Sir Quinton Hazell, former chairman and managing director of Quinton Hazell, 75; Sir Anthony Kershaw, former MP, 80; Miss Barbara Leigh-Hunt, actress, 60; Mr Thomas McAvoy, MP, 52; Mr Robert Mitchell, former chairman, GLC, 82; Mr C.R. Morris, former MP, 69; Mr Alberto Morrocco, painter, 78; Mr Toby Newth, Governor, Exeter prison, 58; Sir John Osborn, former MP, 73; Dame Ruth Railton, founder, National Youth Orchestra, 80; Mr Stan Smith, tennis player, 49; Mr Roy Thomason, MP, 51; Sir Simon Towneley, Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, 74; Miss Rosalyn Tureck, conductor, 81; Mr Peter Williams, rugby league player, 35.

Institution of Mechanical Engineers

Mr Eiji Toyoda, Honorary Chairman of Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan, received the prestigious James Watt International Medal on December 13, 1995, at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. *Mr Toyoda was awarded* the medal for his outstanding contributions to mechanical engineering.


DOUG MARKE

Jean Yeomans and some of the youngsters, ready to start work on a replacement for their old community centre

4,000 homeless young people find new hope

BY JOHN YOUNG

LIKE many once thriving mining towns, Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, has paid a heavy price for the closure of the pits. Never a place of beauty, it has recently had to contend with 25 per cent unemployment and the resulting social and economic misery.

Mining communities were once renowned for their close community spirit and their inhabitants' loyalty to their neighbours. No longer, it appears. In the nearly ten years since it was founded, the Old Chapel Housing and Community Trust has helped more than 4,000 homeless young people, a statistic which a generation ago would have seemed unimaginable.

In 1985 a group of local residents, led by Jean Yeomans, was able to persuade the Bank of Scotland to lend them the money to buy a house. The following year the trust was formed and, with support from charitable trusts, businesses and local authorities, now manages four three-bedroom houses and an eight-bedroom hostel, as well as a 24-hour helpline for those faced with personal crises. No request for help is ever refused.

"I understand how it feels to be vulnerable," Mrs Yeomans says. "By the time I was five, both my dad and mum were dead. I had an older sister who looked after us, but it wasn't easy.

"It's so important to show you care. The young people here need to know they are secure and valued. I suppose I treat them as my own, and they stay here as long as it takes."

Most of them come from broken homes, in particular where one or other parent has taken a new partner who wants to be rid of them.

Mrs Yeomans says her first task is to rebuild the self-confidence which they have lost through rejection, providing not only shelter and security but instruction in domestic tasks like cooking and cleaning, along with insistence on personal hygiene and a ban on drugs and other anti-social habits. The houses are run on family lines, and the inhabitants are required to share the household chores.

As an aid to self-confidence and character-building, the trust also organises outdoor adventure trips, camping and even skiing in Scotland. "I want them to know that they don't need a lot of fancy gear for these things. They can ski in secondhand army clothes and stay in youth hostels," Mrs Yeomans says.

The project is assisted by Bob Andrew, who runs the Acre Youth and Community Centre with help from Nottinghamshire county council and the Kirkby Urban Family Trust. Among other things, he supervises groups in conservation work and organises canal trips in two narrowboats.

Among the present residents, Richard Townsend, 19, was "kicked out" of home just before Christmas last year. Since January he has shared a house with four others and found work for a time as a carpet fitter although he has since been made redundant.

Finlay Moore, 17, left home in June last year "because I didn't get on with Mum." She is now on a youth training scheme, working in a second-hand shop. Paul Shaw, 25, has lived in one of the trust's houses for the last eight months, but is about to move into a council flat and is hoping to get a job in a nearby shoe factory.

Each of the young people pays £20 a week in rent, which goes only part of the way to covering the trust's costs. Other income comes from fundraising, business donations and a charity shop which it runs, but money is a perennial problem. Mrs Yeomans is anxious to replace the nearby community centre, which had to be pulled down because it had become decrepit, and which she "misses dreadfully", but for which she needs to raise nearly £70,000.

The Old Chapel Housing and Community Trust was yesterday declared the winner of the 1995 Charles Douglas-Home Award. Named after a former Editor of The Times, *the award recognises the outstanding entry among the winners of the annual Community Enterprise Awards, organised by Business in the Community and sponsored by* The Times *and Touche Ross.*

Awards ceremony, page 7

The winning projects

The category winners are:

The Chartwell Land/HACT Award for Housing and Homelessness. Joint winners: Old Chapel Housing and Community Trust; the Agnes McDowell Project, Bath Street, Barrow-in-Furness.

The Marks & Spencer Award for Community Services. Joint winners: The Elder Stubbs Allotment Project, Rymers Lane, Oxford; Austin Community Enterprise Advice Centre, Austin Estate, Derby.

The Community Enterprise Award for Community Buildings. The Octagon' Brook Farm Community Centre, Malvern Link, Worcestershire.

The Times *Award for Improvements to the Local Environment.* South Canning Town Sculpture Garden, Fords Park Road, London E16.

The United Biscuits Award for Business Development and Training. Joint winners: The Gatehouse Centre, Hareclive Road, Bristol; Meadow Well Construction Co-operative, North Shields, Tyne & Wear; Off Stage Community Arts Resource Centre Ltd, Cornwallis Street, Liverpool.

Rural Issues Award. Local Charcoal from Coppice Woodland, Carshalton, Surrey.

The Touche Ross Young Endeavour Award. St Simon's Community Project, Wenlock Road, South Shields.

Some of these projects have already been reported in *The Times*. The remainder will be featured in the next few weeks.

Dinners

Corporation of London
The President of Ukraine and Mrs Kuchma were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the Corporation of London last night at the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies received the guests. Among those present were:
Mr Hennadiy Udovenko, Mr Dmytro Tabachnyk, Mr Volodymyr Horbulin, Mr Victor Pymenyk, Mr Ihor Mitiukov, Mr Serhiy Oyrka, Mr Oleksiy Shebershnow, the Ambassador of Ukraine and Mrs Komissarenko, Mr Heorhiy Cherhyevskiy, Mr Dmytro Markov, Mr Yuriy Taberko; the Apostolic Nuncio, the Ambassador of Romania, and Mrs Celac, the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic and Mrs Vitkovski, the Ambassador of the Russian Federation and Mrs Adamishina, the Ambassador of Belarus, HM Ambassador to Ukraine, Lord and Lady Selsdon, Lord and Lady Fitzberry, the Minister of Agriculture, and Baroness Hogg, Sir John and Lady Hanson, Sir Rodric and Lady Braithwaite, Sir Derek Thomas, Ms Noreen Doyle, Sir Sigmund and Lady Sternberg, Sir Norman and Lady Wooding, the Lord and Lady Provost of Edinburgh, the Mayor and Mayoress of Kensington and Chelsea, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Westminster and Mrs Biggens, Members of Parliament, representatives of the Ukrainian Embassy, Aldermen, Common Councilmen and Officers of the Corporation of London and their guests.

Law Society
Mr Martin Mears, President of the *Law Society, with the vice-president* and the council, were the hosts at a dinner held last night at the Law Society Hall. Among those present were:
The Canadian Ambassador, the Master of the Rolls, the Vice-Chancellor of the Supreme Court, *the President of the* Family Division, the Solicitor General, Sir Thomas Legg, QC, Lord Justice Rose and Lord Irvine of Lairg.

Anchorites
Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Ross, Commandant General, Royal Marines, was the principal guest at a dinner of the Anchorites held last night at the Café Royal.

Luncheons

London Europe Society
Mr David Davis, Minister for Europe, was the guest speaker at a luncheon of the London Europe Society held yesterday at the St Ermin's Hotel. Mr Derek Prag, *chairman, was the host.* Lord Cockfield, president, Ambassadors, High Commissioners and other Members of the Diplomatic Corps were among those present.

Mr Frank Law
Mr Frank Law gave a luncheon at Boodle's yesterday. The guests were:
The Ambassador of Morocco, Mr Kenneth Baker, CH, MP, Mr H. Blandford, Mr Richard Bullock, Lord Chalfont, Mr Michael Frye, Mr John Gordon, Mr David Gordon-Shute, Mr Alain Grisay, Mr Peter Hart, Mr David Howell, MP, Mr Martin Lane, Mr Christopher Law, Mr Peter Law, Mr Watryn Lewis, Mr Robin Mountfield, Lord Owen, CH, Sir Peter Pearle, Sir Daniel Pettit, Sir John Richards, Sir Richard Rogers, Mr S. Ruparel, Sir Nicholas Scott, MP, Mr Dominic Shorthouse, Sir Crispin Tickell, Sir *Peter Thompson and Baron Vaes.*

Reception

Courtfield Ward Committee
Mr James Arbuthnot, Minister for Defence Procurement, was the guest of honour at a reception given by the Courtfield Ward Committee of the Kensington and Chelsea Conservative Association on December 7 at Boston University, Harrington Gardens, SW7. Miss Lesley Theobald, chairman of the committee, received the guests. Mr Arbuthnot, Mr Nicholas Beyts and Councillor John Cox were the speakers.

Ellesmere College

The Governors of Ellesmere College are pleased to announce that Mr Brendan Wignall, MA, has been *appointed Headmaster with effect* from September 1996. Mr Wignall, who is currently Head of English and Registrar at Denstone College, will succeed Mr David Du Croz who is to become Head of History at Marlborough College.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nostradamus (Michel de *Notredame), astrologer, Saint-Remy,* 1503; Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald, Admiral, Annsfield, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, 1775; King George VI, reigned 1936-52, York Cottage, Sandringham, 1895.

DEATHS: Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, composer, Hamburg, 1788; Sir Stanley Spencer, painter, Taplow, Buckinghamshire, 1959.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W.A. Barne
and Miss R.L. Mackenzie
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Barne, of Nether Trochrague, Girvan, Ayrshire, and Rachel, daughter of Rear-Admiral and Mrs John Mackenzie, of Meikleour, Perthshire.

Mr W.S. Johnston
and Miss R.H. Lempriere-Robin
The engagement is announced between William Stewart, son of the late Mr William Stewart Johnston and of Mrs Johnston, and Emma Henrietta, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Raoul Lempriere-Robin, of Rosel Manor, Jersey.

Mr A.R. Macklin
and Miss C.R. Paterson
The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr and Mrs David Macklin, of Exeter, Devon, and Claire, daughter of Mr Julian Arkell, of Mahon, Menorca, and Mrs William Paterson, of Little Gaddesden, Hertfordshire.

Mr S.C.E.A. Madden
and Ms G. Kirk
The engagement is announced between Sebastian, son of Mr and Mrs David Madden, of Oxford and *British High Commission,* Cyprus, and Gillian, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Kirk, of Cambridge.

Mr N.R. Morse
and Miss M.M. Axon
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs A.D. Morse, of Belchamp Walter, Suffolk, and Marianne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Axon, of Freckenham, Suffolk.

Mr P.J.W. Prescott
and Miss L.D. Collett
The engagement is announced between Peter James Wendell, son of Brigadier and Mrs Peter Prescott, of The Bourne, Holybourne, Alton, Hampshire, and Lucy Deborah, daughter of Mr Justice Gerald Collett, CBE, and Mrs Collett, of Brandon House, Coachford, Co Cork, Ireland.

Mr A.K.F. Robson
and Miss C.N.P.M. Courtauld
The engagement is announced between Alexander Knut Fenner, elder son of Mr Knut Robson, of Egerton Gardens, London, and Mrs Tarek Kassem, of Sydney Street, London, and Candida Natasha Perina Mary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs George Courtauld, of Coine Engaine, Essex.

Mr W.R. Stanton
and Miss S.A. Stamper
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr and Mrs Richard Stanton, of The Manor House, Dersingham, Norfolk, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Stamper, of Barningham Park, Suffolk.

Mr B.M. Vinter
and Mrs S.E.H. Spearman
The engagement is announced between Mark Vinter, of Kennington, and Sue Spearman, of Chelsea. The marriage will take place in London.

Marriage

Mr T.G. McLintock
and Mrs C.E. Roxburgh
The marriage took place in London, on Thursday, December 7, 1995, between Mr Graeme *McLintock, MBE, and Mrs Carol* Roxburgh.

Professor Anthony Raine

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Anthony Raine will take place at 3.30pm on Thursday, *January 18, in the* Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, London, EC1.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Like the new-born infants you are, you should be craving for spiritual milk so that you may thrive on it and be saved; for surely you have tasted that the Lord is good. 1 Peter 2 : 2. 3 (REB)

BIRTHS

ARMITAGE - On November 19th at the Hertford British Hospital, Paris, to Alasoon (née Carter) and Mark, a daughter, Saskia Tamsin Carter.

AWFORD - On December 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Lenny and Ian, a beautiful daughter, Katherine Louise, a sister for James, Giles, Guy, Alex and Tom.

COOKSON - On December 12th in Australia, to Camilla (née Hardy) and Christopher, a daughter.

COOPER WISEMAN - On December 1st, to Sheridan and Andy, a son, Francis Joe (Frankie), a brother for Ellen Daisy.

COWPER-COLES - On December 12th 1995, to Elizabeth (née Wilson) and Johnny, a daughter, Alice Elizabeth, a sister for James and Tom.

DELANEY - On 19th November 1995, to Amanda (née Lyons) and John, a daughter, Lucinda Sian.

GIBSON - On December 4th, to Amanda (née Owen) and Michael, a son, William Lloyd Owen, a brother for Julia.

HAYLEY - On 7th December, to Sheila (née Ingram) and Alec, a son, Andrew Robert William.

HEMETSBERGER - On 10th *December at The Portland* Hospital, to Tanya Lalonis and Will, a son, Leo Ulysses.

HOWARTH - On December 7th 1995, in Hong Kong, to Jane (née Miller) and David, a son Hugo Robert Lindsay, a brother for Harriet and Lucy.

JEFFREYS/ROSCOE - On 10th December 1995 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Hilary Jeffreys (née Bryan) and Robert Roscoe, a daughter, Julia Mary.

LEIGH-MONNSTEVENS - On December 5th 1995 in Michigan, U.S.A., to Teresa and Keith, a son, Phillip Vernon, a brother for Claire and Andrew.

O'BOYLE - On 12th December 1995 *at Arrowe Park* Hospital, Wirral, to Janet (née Richens) and John, a daughter, Bridget, a sister for Thomas and Katie.

ODGERS - On December 7th 1995, to Henrietta (née *Macdonald) and James*, a daughter, Clementine Victoria, a sister for Leticia, Catriona and Thomas.

BIRTHS

ONSLOW - On 7th December 1995, to Jane (née Owen) and Andrew, a son, James Andrew Quintus, a brother for Louise, Matthew, Harry and Frederica.

VENABLES - On 11th December 1995, to Suzanne (née Johnson Smith) and Rodney, a daughter, Serena Claire.

WALKER - On 7th December 1995 at The Rosie Maternity Hospital, Cambridge, to Louise (née Gawne) and Nicholas, a son, Theodore Samuel Edwin.

WILLIAMS - On December 8th, to Natalie (née Wolcott) and Hugo, a daughter, Georgia.

DEATHS

ANDERSON - John David Bennett on 12th December 1995 at home in Bassingbourn. Dearest husband of Elizabeth, loving and much loved father of Griselda, Rupert, Justin and Imogen, father-in-law to David and a lovely grandfather to Patrick and Rosina. Funeral private.

BECK - Eileen Ettie (née Kane), died peacefully on 12th December 1995 at Guildford aged 77 years, after an illness bravely borne. Much loved mother of Susan, Margaret, Nicola and Robert. Funeral Service to take place at St Mary's Church, Selborne, Hants., at 11 am on Wednesday 20th December 1995. All enquiries to Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 28 South Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6NY, tel: (01483) 857333.

BENNETT - On 11th December 1995, Alice Mary (Mollie). Wife of the late Bill. Mother of Judith, Nancy and Geoffrey. Service at St Laurence Church, *Hawkhurst on Thursday* 21st December at 2.30 pm. Followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, if desired, donations to St Laurence Church PCC (for the Hassock Fund), or a *Charity of your own choice,* c/o C. Waterhouse & Sons, High Street, Burwash, E. Sx. Tel: (01435) 882219.

DEATHS

BOLAND - Barbara, widow of Sir Rowan Boland, former Dean of Guy's Hospital, died peacefully on December 7th at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay. Barbara will be sorely missed by her many friends and relatives on either side of the atlantic. Memorial Service Friday December 15th 4 pm at St Dunstan's Church, Canterbury.

BRUCE - On December 12th at home in Washington, Evangeline, wife of the late David K.E. Bruce.

CAMERON - Ian Grant aged 57. Peacefully following a stroke at Beauchamp House Nursing Home, Hatch Beauchamp, Taunton. Where he appreciated the great care and attention he and Nina received. Brother of Colin and Joan. Served in Colonial Forestry in Nigeria and The Gold Coast (Ghana) and under British Council in Pakistan, Barbados and Chile. Funeral Service on Friday December 22nd 12 noon at the Taunton Deane Crematorium.

COTTERELL - On December 11th peacefully in hospital, Ian Douglas, aged 65. Formerly of the BBC drama department. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium (East Chapel) on Tuesday 19th December at 1.15 pm. Family flowers only but donations may be sent to Parkinson's Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0RA.

DEAN - Lt Col Geoffrey John (Tinny) Dean., MC, aged 86, on Tuesday 12th December. Beloved husband of Steph and father to David, stepfather to Sue and Johanie. Devoted grandfather. Funeral Service at St Edwards Church, Corfe Castle on Monday 18th December at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Army Benevolent Fund.

EASTWOOD - *Dr. Berwyn* on December 12th 1995, Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton. Greatly missed by his family. Funeral Tuesday December 19th at 11 am at St Mark's Church, Oulton Broad, Suffolk. Donations to Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Research.

FRANCIS - Harold William peacefully on 8th December 1995, devoted and dearly loved husband of Peggy and wonderful caring father of Rosemary and Shirley. Family flowers only. Funeral private.

DEATHS

GORE BROWNE - On December 12th in Winchester, Vinny, beloved widow of Tommy and mother of James, Gina, David and Bertie, died peacefully after a long illness. Funeral Service for family and friends on December 19th at 2 pm at St Nicholas Church, Peper Harow, Godalming. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, 25 Bradston Road, London W9.

GUNYER - Molly Mary, on Tuesday 12th December 1995, died unexpectedly but peacefully. Beloved wife of the late Peter Gunyer and much loved by Mark and Louise and by all generations of her family. Requiem at 10.45 am on Monday 18th December at the Brompton Oratory, London.

HAMERSLEY - Mary of Oxford passed away peacefully at her home after a short illness. Dear sister of *Arthur* and a much loved aunt to Simon, Clare and Gerald. The coffin will be received into St Aloysius R.C. Church, Woodstock Road, on Thursday 14th December followed by Funeral Mass on Friday 15th December at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please by request, but donations, if desired, for The Cat Protection League or R.S.P.C.A. c/o A.W. Bruce Funeral Directors, 29 Rogers Street, Summertown, Oxford.

HANNAWI - On December 11th 1995, peacefully in hospital and fortified by the rites of Holy Mother Church, Khalida Attieh of Didsbury, Manchester, the dearly loved *wife of Emile* and much loved mother of Paul. Funeral Mass at St Catherine's Church, School Lane, Didsbury on Tuesday, December 19th at 12 noon followed by interment at *Southern Cemetery at* 1.15pm. Enquiries to C. Middleton & Son Ltd. Tel: (0161) 434-5725.

DEATHS

HEWITT - Captain Eric RD, *RNR*, peacefully at Winston Hospital on December 13th aged 91. Much loved and admired father of Ann, Carol and Michael and beloved husband of the late Marjory. Funeral Service at Pennon Priory on Saturday December 16th at 9.30 am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Conway Centenary Appeal Fund, Conway House, 5 Furlong Lane, Tottenhoe, nr Dunstable, Beds. LU6 1QR. Memorial Service to be arranged.

HICHES CARR - Suddenly in hospital on 12th December 1995 after a short illness, Deborah Mabel, beloved wife of the late Malcolm Stuart Carr and adored only daughter of Ian and the late Betty Inches. Service at the *Canongate* Church, Edinburgh at 12.30pm on Saturday 16th December. Family flowers only.

JAYEWARDENE - Sidney Ivor Peter, born 1st December 1916 died 8th December 1995. Peacefully at his home after a long illness in Morimoran, France. Sadly missed by his loving wife Marlene.

JOHNSON - Douglas L.I.B. aged 78 years died peacefully *on December 12th 1995* at his home at Sawley, nr. Clitheroe (former Solicitor of Accrington). The dearly loved husband of the late Margaret Helen, father of Angela, Vanessa and Sheila, grandfather of Charlotte and father-in-law of Miles and Geordie. Reposing in Peacehaven Chapel of Rest. Service and interment will take place at St Ambrose Church, Grindleton on Tuesday December 19th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu if so desired may be donated for Cancer Research c/o Mrs B. Taylor, 116 Chatburn Road, Clitheroe, Lancashire. Enquiries to Brian Price Funeral Service, tel: (01200) 441297.

JOHNSON - Malcolm Trenfield on December 12th after a short illness. Beloved son of the late Eric and Edith Johnson and brother of *Adrian, Oliver and Rachel.* Funeral Service at Baxter Church, Bullring, Kidderminster, on December 20th at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations if wished to Kemp Hospice, c/o Edwin *Harris & Sons,* Funeral Directors, 1 Crane Street, Kidderminster, DY11 6XT.

DEATHS

MARTIN - Anthony John (Tony) M.B.B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., on 12th December, 1995, suddenly but peacefully at Summerlands Nursing Home, aged 65 years. Loving husband of Margaret, dearly loved father of Nicholas, Alison and Addie. Devoted Grandpa to Alex, Connie, Louise and Christien, loved brother of Brian and sister-in-law Betty. Funeral Service at All Saints' Church, Birchington, on Tuesday, 19th December, at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired, to the Thanet Pilgrims' Hospice, c/o Blackburns F.S. Buckingham Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1QR.

MOFFETT - On December *12th 1995, peacefully in* hospital, *Arthur James (Jim)* aged 91 years, of Cookley Green, near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. Loving husband of Ella and father of James, Jonathan, Sarah, Michael and Stephen. Funeral Service at 12 noon on Thursday December 21st at Elmbridge Church. Flowers and enquiries to G. Crump Funeral Director, Droitwich, (01905) 775559.

PEPPERCORN - Aileen T. on 10th December with peace and dignity. Funeral at St Michael's Chenies on 21st December at 2.15 pm.

PITMAN - At home at Edinburgh on 12th December 1995, Christian Blanchette, widow of the late John Pitman W.S. Funeral Service at Mortonhall Crematorium Pentland Chapel on Saturday 16th December at 11.15 am.

POND - Dennis Wellsman of Moseley, Birmingham, in his 92nd year, peacefully in hospital on 11th December 1995 after a long and happy life. Beloved husband of the late Margaret and a much loved father of James and devoted grandfather of Nicholas and Ariane and brother of Mary. Service at St Mary's Church, Moseley, Birmingham, at 10.45 am on Monday December 18th. Family flowers only. Donations to The Stroke *Association c/o Sue Smith,* 51-53 Alcester Road South, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JQ.

DEATHS

PORTER - Sybil Agnes, widow of George Porter, on December 10th in Reigate. Funeral Service at St Joseph's Church, Epsom, Monday December 18th at 10 am, followed by burial in Epsom Cemetery. Flowers and enquiries to A & E Longhurst, 21-23 Kingston Road, Ewell, tel: 0(181) 393-1077.

POWELL - William Pearson, on 11th December 1995, after a long illness aged 70 years. Son of the late James and Mary Powell. Service 1pm on Tuesday 19th December at The Cumberlands Crematorium, Hull. Family flowers only please.

ROGERS - Dr. Alan R. On December 11th, beloved husband of Joy and father of Adam and Duncan. Funeral at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, *2pm December 19th.* No flowers. Donations if wished to The Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton.

SAYLES - Peacefully, at the Kent and Sussex Hospital in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on Monday 11th December 1995, Agnes J. Sayles (née Sutherland) of Warren Hill, Crowborough, widow of Professor G.G. Sayles and mother of Michael (deceased) and Hilary. Funeral Service on Tuesday, 19th December, at the Kent and Sussex Crematorium, Tunbridge Wells, at 12 noon. No flowers, please. Mother loved her garden: if you wish to be reminded of her, please plant a little shrub in your own garden and so and say hello to it from time to time.

TAYLOR - John Francis, aged 64 years, of Clarton, Suffolk. Died peacefully on 9th December surrounded by his family. John's brave fight *against cancer left us all in* awe and admiration. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Funeral has taken place but donations - if desired - are being accepted for Cancer Research or *Macmillan Nurses c/o R.* Rivett Ltd., 16 Carmon Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0RU.

DEATHS

TYDEMAN - On 12th December 1995, Gladys Florence May (née Whiteley) aged 79, peacefully after a long illness in the West Wittering Private Nursing Home, where she received devoted care. Widow of Eric and much loved mother of Roger. Funeral Service at St Peter and St Paul, West Wittering, on Tuesday 19th December at 11.30 am. Flowers or donations, if desired, to the R.S.P.B. or The Shipwrecked Mariners Society and all enquiries to Edward White & Son, 5 South Pallant, Chichester, tel: (01243) 782136.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WATKIN - Margaret Muriel Watkin, Vice-President of The Magistrates Association, Chairman of the Dyfed Branch and Vice-President of The Central Probation Council. A Memorial Service will be held at St Peter's Church, Carmarthen, at 2pm on Friday January 12th. Friends and former colleagues welcome.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

LEVY - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Percy Reginald Levy will be held at 6.45 pm on Monday 8th January at The West London Synagogue, Upper Berkeley Street, London W1.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

EDELMAN - Maurice Edelman M.P. Vividly remembered with devotion and pride today and always by his wife Tilli and daughters Sonia and Nabeha.

UBBELOHDE - Paul, F.R.S. Remembered always and on this his birthday.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

VINE-BROOKES - On 14th December 1936 at Dovercourt, Essex, Capt. R. Stephen Vine RAMC to F. Betty Brookes. Now at Crowborough, E. Sussex.

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Brother of Josie and Alex.
Dearest friend of Tony Godden.

BIRTHDAYS

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OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR GILLIAN ROSE

Gillian Rose, philosopher, died of cancer on December 9 aged 48. She was born on September 20, 1947.

PHILOSOPHY in the late 20th century is, or ought to be, a more strenuous vocation than at any time in history. Gillian Rose was rare, perhaps unique, in being equal to the challenge. Her quest for alternatives to the intellectual *cul de sac* in which she found her generation led her to explore traditions despised at most Anglo-American universities, and to rise above academic mediocrity.

Her early death has silenced a great scholar in her prime: an authority on all continental, and especially German thought; on theology, sociology, political theory and post-modernism. But it has also extinguished a new star in the firmament of English letters.

Earlier this year, already gravely ill, Rose published her last short book, an autobiographical meditation aptly entitled *Love's Work*; it resonated far beyond the academic sphere. Here her prose attained a concrete simplicity and existential intensity; her eloquent suffering was transfigured by a radiant spirituality which embraced both Jewish and Christian elements.

Gillian Rosemary Stone, as she was born, grew up in a Jewish family in west London, highly talented (her sister Jacqueline is also an eminent academic) but overshadowed by memories of the Holocaust: her maternal grandmother was the only survivor of her family. She suffered from dyslexia which, she wrote, "is fraught with significance in a Jewish child" (especially one as precociously intelligent as her); her condition improved after an operation to correct a squint. Her parents were divorced early in her life, and at the age of 16 she decided to change her name from her father's, Stone, to her stepfather's, Rose. At Ealing Grammar School — where her rebellions against the head, Miss Bland, did not prevent her gaining a scholarship to read PPE at St Hilda's College, Oxford — she discovered philosophy for herself, by reading Plato's *Republic* and Pascal's *Pensées*.

Going up to Oxford in 1966 was at once an escape from domestic conflict — her mother, Lynn, had by this time separated from her stepfather — and an ordeal. *Love's Work* describes the agoraphobia which the dreaming spires induced in her. Finding home unbearable, she was obliged to stay at Oxford in freezing digs during vacations, and was desperately lonely. But the greatest disappointment was the work: she again rebelled against her tutor Jean Austin (widow of J. L. Austin, founder of the Oxford school of linguistic analysis), whose greeting to her undergraduates was: "Remember, girls, all the philosophers you will read are much more intelligent than you are." Only in her final year did she recover her enthusiasm for study, under Jean Floud of Nuffield, who introduced her to sociology.

Having graduated in 1970, Rose spent what she called her apprenticeship year at Columbia in New York and at the Free University in Berlin; at the New School of Social Research she was introduced to Hegel by Dieter Henrich and to the Frankfurt School by Jürgen Habermas. But it was in the Manhattan apartment of her bisexual lover, Jim Fessenden, that she first discovered Sixties culture. A quarter of a century later, after his death, Rose included in



Love's Work an affectionate account of his bohemian milieu. Her frank portrait of their mutual friend Camille Paglia caused the now famous feminist to threaten Rose with a libel writ — to little avail.

Based at St Antony's College, Oxford, Rose wrote her thesis under the Polish philosopher Leszek Kolakowski. As her subject she chose Theodor W. Adorno of the Frankfurt School, which dominated postwar German social theory; Kolakowski, then writing his debunking history of Marxism, mocked her gently: "I, too, wrote my thesis on a second-rate thinker." Having taught herself German by reading the notoriously dense works of Adorno, she felt a deep affinity with his thought, despite its cultural pessimism. Her thesis became her first book, *The Melancholy Science* (1978), which remains the best introduction to Adorno. By then Rose was a lecturer in sociology at Sussex, where she was to remain for 15 years, and it looked as though her career was leading away from philosophy.

However, she attracted a number of philosophical refugees, disillusioned by logic-chopping, and acquired a well-deserved reputation as an inspiring postgraduate supervisor. Abandoning her worldly asceticism, she learnt to enjoy the good things in life: food, drink, music, art and sex. These Sussex years were highly productive. She enjoyed two happy relationships there, but never married; her children, she said, were her books.

In 1981 the first book in what she later called her "trilogy" appeared: *Hegel contra Sociology* argued that sociology, whether Marxist or non-Marxist, had failed to assimilate the true significance of Hegel. The book was a landmark in Hegel studies, but the *TLS* criticised her idiom, which made "no concession whatever" to the general reader. Her neo-Hegelianism remained central; in 1984 she used it to devastating effect in *Dialectic of Nihilism: Post-Structuralism and Law*, a critique of the tide of post-structuralism then overwhelming the academic scene.

Rose was too uncompromising to be adept at academic politics, and she had to wait till 1989 for promotion. Aged 40, she became Professor of Social and Political Thought at Warwick, where she found true professional fulfilment, though the focus of her interests was increasingly theological. *The Broken Middle: Out of Our Ancient Society* (1992) was the second work in her trilogy, a visionary resolution of the political and metaphysical conflicts of the post-Communist world, with intimations of her eventual leap of faith.

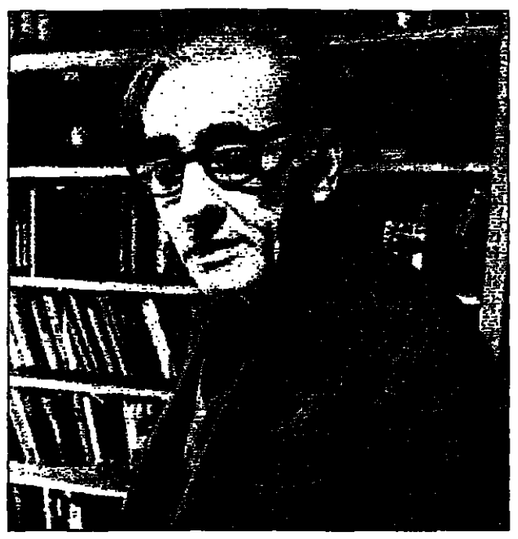
In 1993 she published one of her most valuable books, *Judaism and Modernity: Philosophical Essays*. Buber, Simone Weil, Benjamin, Rosenzweig, Derrida and a host of other Jewish thinkers were scrutinised in her bid to help Judaism and modernity to find a way out of their "crisis of self-comprehension".

That year Rose discovered that she had ovarian cancer. In spite of operations —including a colostomy — and chemotherapy, the disease spread inexorably until it reached her lungs. *Love's Work* (1995), the final work in her trilogy, was the product of her last two years. Into it she concentrated the essence of her life and thought. It dwells on sickness and mortality, on friendship and betrayal, on the most intimately personal and the most sublimely universal: "This is not love of suffering, but the work, the power of love, which may curse, but abides."

Love's Work had a rapturous reception from reviewers, such as Marina Warner and Julia Neuberger, and at a public lecture at the ICA, Rose found herself fêted by readers. To the end, she made close new friendships. In her last months, she worked on a collection of her essays, *Mourning and the Law*, which will appear next year, and a sequel to *Love's Work*, of which a publishable manuscript was completed.

On the day that she died, fellow academics had gathered for a conference at Warwick on "The Soul and the City"; her name was on everybody's lips. Hours before her death, she was baptised by the Bishop of Coventry, the Right Rev Simon Barrington-Ward. She died reconciled to her family, to God and to her own cruel fate.

JOHN BUNTING



John Bunting, publisher, died on November 29 aged 76. He was born on January 29, 1919.

THE publisher John Bunting was a bookman born and bred. His father, Daniel George Bunting, under the *nom de plume* of Daniel George, reviewed the latest books in the literary pages of national Sunday and London evening papers. He also compiled several miscellanies of those curious minutiae beloved of all readers of English literature. As a reader and literary adviser to the publishing house of Jonathan Cape he fostered distinguished authors. The family home in Mill Hill, where the young Bunting also went to school, was frequented by many who were in the mainstream of letters in the 1920s and 1930s.

The war took Bunting to India where he served as an officer in the 5th Punjab Regiment. While in East Bengal he became a friend of a notable group of Western scholars devoted to Hindu life and philosophy. One of these was Alain Danielou, a Frenchman who became a professor at Benares University and the leading authority on north Indian music. Later, at Barrie & Jenkins, Bunting was to publish his *Northern Indian Music*, the standard work.

On demobilisation he drifted into publishing, working for a time with Frederick Muller. But a more exciting opportunity opened up in 1947 when he joined a new firm owned by the *New Statesman*, Turnstile Press (named after the weekly's then home in Great Turnstile).

Despite an illustrious board of directors, which included J. B. Priestley, Kingsley Martin and Leonard Woolf, the firm foundered in 1953. Nevertheless some notable books were published, often of an offbeat flavour. Much of this was thanks to Bunting who doubled up as sales director.

After a difficult period following Turnstile Press's collapse as a book publisher — it continued to put out occasional pamphlets — Bunting became a director of James Barrie, a small firm acquired by Leopold Ullstein (a refugee from the famous German publishing house of Ullstein) which was to grow by further acquisitions. Rockcliffe Publishing brought in music and catering, Cresset Press history and biography, and Herbert Jenkins P. G. Wodehouse. The publishing house's name became Barrie & Jenkins and it went on, largely through Bunting's flair, to become a leader in the field of art and antiques, music and, of course, the works of the nonagenarian Wodehouse.

But a new era of publishing was in the offing. The habit of takeovers was just becoming fashionable and Barrie & Jenkins succumbed. The new commercial atmosphere was not one in which Bunting felt at home and in 1972 he virtually withdrew. After a none-too-happy spell with Heinemann, he set up as an antiquarian bookseller and provided a research service, which he continued to the end.

Bunting was married, first to Paulette Maynard, whose father Robert Maynard ran the Gregynog Press, an eminent private press in Wales. His second wife, Melaan Williams, who predeceased him, he met at the *New Statesman*, where for many years she worked as assistant to the literary editor. The first marriage ended in divorce and the second in separation.

Bunting was not an easy man and his character, allied to his love of "curiosities" frequently led him to worlds on the wrong side of the tracks. He had an almost-Orwellian capacity for feeling at home in environments not superficially upright. In September 1991 he became a Brother of Sutton's Hospital in Charterhouse, where he lived until his death.

He is survived by a son and a stepson, who is the guitarist John Williams.

JOHN HEAWOOD

John Heawood, actor, dancer and choreographer, died on December 11 aged 75. He was born on May 30, 1920.

JOHNNIE HEAWOOD was one of the musical theatre's outstanding performers. As a dancer, he had a style all of his own. As an actor, he tackled everything from drag to drama, though his preference was for comedy. As a choreographer, he staged two long-running hit musicals in the 1950s, *Irma la Douce* in London, and *The Boy Friend*. The latter was produced in both London and on Broadway, where it made an overnight star of Julie Andrews.

Born in Canada, Heawood learnt to Charleston at the age of six — without any inkling of how useful it would one day prove — and came to Britain in 1940, at the age of 20, while serving in the Canadian Army. During the war he performed in army concert parties and, when peace came, he turned professional.

He had his first London success at the Globe Theatre in 1947 with Joyce Grenfell and Elisabeth Welch in *Tuppence Coloured*. This was a revue by Benjamin Britten,



Christopher Fry and John Betjeman, in which he not only danced but established himself as a comedian, appearing during scene changes as a pixillated stagehand.

This was followed in 1949 by the Flanders and Swann revue *Oranges and Lemons*, and then by his film debut in 1952 with Hollywood's Ray Bolger in *Where's Charley?*, the technicolour musical based on *Charley's Aunt*.

Heawood was appearing in Jack Hylton's revue, *London Laughs*, at the Adelphi Theatre when he was asked by Vida Hope to choreograph her production of Sandy Wilson's musical, *The Boy Friend*. The libretto puzzled him. "The only thing I'm slightly worried about," he told Hope, "is that there don't appear to be any jokes." Hope responded: "You get on with the dancing and leave the jokes to me."

Heawood's faithful recreation of the dance routines of the 1920s was a crucial factor in the staggering success of *The Boy Friend*. Within a month of its first London performance in April 1953, he was back on stage as a dancer in the London Coliseum production of *Guys and Dolls* in which, as a larger than life Damon Runyon drunk, he stopped the show nightly with his grandiloquent delivery of the line, "What *vulgar* jewellery!"

At the Players' Theatre in April 1954 he joined forces with Hattie Jacques in *The Players Minstrels*, a production so successful that it inspired the launching, four years later, of BBC Television's *The Black and White Minstrel Show*.

The Broadway production of *The Boy Friend* in September 1954, which elevated Julie Andrews to stardom, was an embattled affair, with its creator Sandy Wilson locked in conflict with the producers, Cy Feuer and Ernest Martin. The director Vida Hope suffered a nervous breakdown, but Heawood, according to his star dancer Ann Wakefield, "kept his head while all about him were losing theirs" and got on with the job.

In 1955 he was back in London to choreograph June Whitfield in the revue *From Here and There* at the Royal Court, returning to Broadway that autumn to stage *Joyce Grenfell Requests the Pleasure*. He reached the peak of his career as a choreographer in 1958 with his acclaimed staging of *Irma la Douce* at the Lyric Theatre, followed in 1959 by *The Crooked Mile* at the Cambridge.

In 1962 he returned to the West End as an actor and dancer, playing Robert Lemanteur, a devious Parisian lawyer, in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, with Dora Bryan. He was a perennial favourite in the *Late Joys* Victorian music hall bills at the Players' Theatre, where he also joined Brian Blades as the most outrageous of Ugly Sisters in *Cinderella* in 1961, returning in 1966 to play Muley in *Whittington Junior and his Sensation Cat*.

On screen, he was seen in the film musical *Oliver!* (playing a Londoner, who sat in a tree and sang) and *The Slipper and the Rose* (as a dancer). In Brian Blades's musical anthology *A Century of Song*, in 1970, Heawood swept on stage resplendent in full drag, looking uncannily like Marlene Dietrich, and then proceeded to move his audience from laughter to tears with a mesmeric rendering of *They Didn't Believe Me*.

During the 1970s he performed a one-man show from the works of Cole Porter at the King's Head Theatre, where he also choreographed *Edith Piaf, Je vous aime*, in 1977, and directed *The French Have A Song For It* in 1978.

His last appearances were in music hall at Karl Marx's favourite London pub, the Pindar of Wakefield, where, as a libidinous curate, he nightly dropped his spectacles down the ample bosom of a French governess, played by Violetta.

Chain-smoking and alcohol took their toll in his last years when, afflicted by arthritis and emphysema, he set his flat in Camden Town on fire. Yet such was the affection in which he was held throughout the profession that when a stroke necessitated his removal to a nursing home, a host of friends rallied to help him.

He was unmarried and is survived by his two sisters.

SIR DAVID LIGHTBOWN

Sir David Lightbown, Conservative MP for Staffordshire South-East since 1983 and former Government Whip, died on December 12 aged 63. He was born on November 30, 1932.

AS A Government Whip during some of the most critical days of the Major administration Sir David Lightbown benefited from his appearance. He was a hulk of a man, weighing over 18st, whose presence was intimidating even before he began to address a potential rebel.

Whips tend to divide into two types. There are the suave, the reasoning and the understanding, while others believe in less subtle methods. Lightbown had no doubt where he belonged.

He was a Midlands industrialist who twice threatened to close factories when he



found himself confronted with union demands. He used the same quality of menace to provide the votes for ratification of the Maastricht treaty.

Despite his fervour he missed an important vote himself through over-enthusiasm. He was so engrossed, hammering on the door of a Commons lavatory where a potential dissident — Sir Peter Fry — had taken refuge, that he did not hear the shouts announcing the division. On other occasions there is reasonable evidence that he reduced some potential rebels to tears.

He was a tough man outside the Commons. One constituent claimed that when she told him she was so distraught that she was going to throw herself from the window Lightbown replied: "If you're going to jump out of a window, jump out of your window at home, and not mine." His fellow MPs would have recognised the Lightbown touch.

On the other hand, he was considerate about the problems of his colleagues. Ready to help them financially and counsel them on more personal matters. There were those who believed that there was more than an element of self-parody in his well-publicised tactics.

Lightbown was a typical Midlander, born and educated in Derby, who came to the Commons through the local government route. He entered Parliament in 1983 as a resolute right-winger, voting for the restoration of capital punishment, backing rugby tours of South Africa during the apartheid years and urging the BBC to accept advertising.

He entered the Whips' Office in 1986 and made his name by his efforts to contain Conservative rebellion against the poll tax. Later came Maastricht — with Lightbown handed the task of getting through the legislation, whatever the cost. Before that, he had already suffered one heart attack in the House in 1991.

He is survived by his wife Margaret Ann whom he married in 1960.

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Court and Social Page

Over the Christmas period the following deadline will apply:-

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BROWNING CELEBRATION.

On Saturday morning a service was held in the parish church of St Marylebone in commemoration of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Browning at that church 50 years ago, and of the death of Robert Browning which occurred on December 12, 1889. The marriage took place on September 12, 1846, and the invitation to the service on Saturday was in the form of a facsimile of the entry in the parish register, on the back of which were given details of the service, portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Browning, verses from their works, and a picture of the church of St. Marylebone. The following passage from Mrs. Orr's "Life of Robert Browning" was also printed on the invitation:—"Then (1831), as on each succeeding visit paid to London with his wife, he commemorated his marriage in a manner all his own. He went to the church in which it had been solemnized and kissed the paving stones in front of the door." The service was choral, and the officiating clergy were the Dean of Canterbury, Canon Wilberforce, Prebendary Barker (rector of St. Marylebone), the Rev. E.W. Raby, and the Rev R.H. Sharpe. The offertory was made on behalf of the Canterbury Cathedral Restoration Fund. There was a numerous congregation. Before the service the organist, Mr. F.B. Kiddle, played Sullivan's "Royal Wedding March" as a voluntary. The service, which was the ordinary service of the Church, included Psalm xiv., "My heart is inditing of a good matter"; the *Te Deum and Benedictus*, in E (Barnby), and the anthem "Who is like unto Thee, O God?" (Sullivan). The sermon, which was preceded by the hymn "Who are these like stars appearing?" was preached by the Dean of Canterbury.

The Dean said that the gathering had a two-fold significance. It celebrated the anniversary of the death of one of the greatest poets of this age in a reign that had been prolific of noble literature and it reminded them that in that church, 50 years ago, the poet was united in the bonds of holy wedlock to one of the truest and sweetest of our female singers. If that commemoration helped to bring home the lesson that might be learned from the example of two worthy lives, and from the inspiration of two gifted intellects, it would not be in vain. For it had always seemed to him that the poets were the wisest as they were the most delightful of modern instructors. And he scarcely knew of another instance so striking—if, indeed, there was any other in human history—of two, who had enriched their century with songs that could not die owing their best of long-continued earthly happiness to their union in holy matrimony. In an age which had so many poets and writers, not indeed ungifted, but of the baser sort who had polluted the world with the realism of moral mud, which had sneered at marriage and endeavoured to paint the gate of hell with Paradise, who had eulogized the bonds of vagrant passions and the weight of chance desires as though freedom consisted in the slavery of our lower nature, it was a precious boon and antidote that these two poets of the supremer class thought it little shame, as did the ancient poet of the Canticles, to glorify a pure and holy love . . .

ON THIS DAY

December 14, 1896

In September 1846, Elizabeth Barrett, the poet, slipped away from her home in London with her maid, Wilson, and at St Marylebone Church met the poet Robert Browning: there they were married. Fifty years later the marriage was commemorated at the church.

THE TIMES TODAY

THURSDAY DECEMBER 14 19

NEWS

Lottery chief investigates Camelot

■ Peter Davis, the Director General of the National Lottery, is to launch an investigation into allegations made by Richard Branson about the tactics used by Camelot to win the contract to run the National Lottery.

Questions were laid in Parliament about a visit Mr Davis made to Australia: he has admitted taking five free flights in the US in a private jet owned by GTech, an American company behind the successful Camelot bid for the lottery..... **Page 1**

Mortgage rates at 30-year low

■ Mortgage rates fell to their lowest level for almost 30 years after Kenneth Clarke cut interest rates by a quarter point to 6.5 per cent. The Chancellor acted to sustain the faltering economic recovery but the modesty of the cut disappointed business leaders and some Tory MPs..... **Pages 1, 21**

Wei jailed for 14 years

Wei Jingsheng, the Chinese dissident, was jailed for 14 years after a trial closed to the foreign press and diplomats. He was charged with attempting to overthrow the Government..... **Pages 1, 16**

Earldom at stake

A battle to establish the heir to the Earldom of Selkirk will be decided in the new year when a Government minister and his lawyer cousin go before the Court of Lord Lyon in Edinburgh..... **Page 12**

Mental health attack

The wife of a doctor who was stabbed in his surgery criticised the Care in the Community policy after learning that his alleged attacker had been freed from a psychiatric hospital..... **Page 3**

Connolly skirmish

The European Commission has lost an initial legal skirmish in its battle with Bernard Connolly, the British official with renegade views on monetary union who was suspended..... **Page 13**

Kasparov clincher

Garry Kasparov, the world chess champion, clinched victory over a computer capable of analysing more moves in a minute than he will play in a lifetime, avenging a defeat in 1994..... **Page 5**

Chirac not for turning

Echoing Margaret Thatcher, President Chirac told ministers to stand firm on welfare reform despite the continuing strikes and insisted: "There is no alternative."..... **Page 14**

Parents may sue

The parents of Nicholas Geldard, 10, who died of a brain haemorrhage as doctors shuttled him between four hospitals, may sue the health authorities..... **Page 6**

Russian poll appeal

The Russian Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, made a final appeal to the electorate to back his reformist policies on Sunday..... **Page 15**

Community awards

The Prince of Wales presented the tenth annual Community Enterprise awards, sponsored by *The Times* and Touche Ross, at St James's Palace..... **Pages 7, 21, 22**

Quake-proof capital

A government report suggested building a new capital for Japan less susceptible to earthquakes. The Diet should be able to move *there by 2010*..... **Pages 16, 21**

Sara Thornton retrial

Sara Thornton is to stand trial again for the murder of her violent and drunken husband after the Court of Appeal quashed her conviction..... **Pages 9, 20**

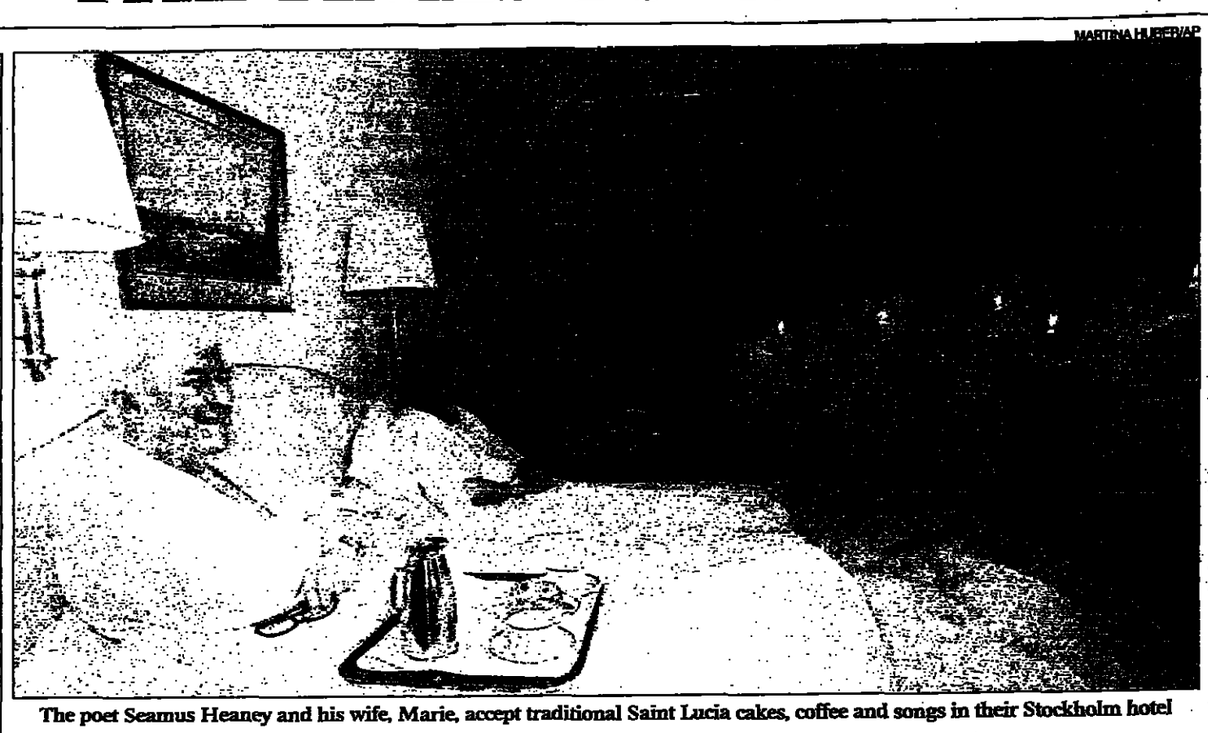
Blinding light

Rooftop laser shows in Las Vegas have been banned by the US Food and Drugs Administration after reports that they can temporarily blind pilots..... **Page 17**

The voice of motor racing silenced

■ Murray Walker, the motor racing commentator with the hyberbolic, screeching style, may lose his microphone after 47 years. The BBC lost its contract to screen the Formula One grands prix as ITV scooped the rights to the next five seasons beginning in 1997 for a record £60 million — 10 times the present BBC contract price..... **Page 1**

MARTINA HUBER/AP



The poet Seamus Heaney and his wife, Marie, accept traditional Saint Lucia cakes, coffee and songs in their Stockholm hotel

BUSINESS

Jobs: The Government announced a fall of 20,400 in unemployment to its lowest level for four years. Seasonally adjusted unemployment now stands at 2,244,500..... **Page 25**

Pearson: Shares in Pearson fell 49p to 618p after a profits warning from the media group surprised the City..... **Page 25**

Economy: *High street sales* bounced back in November after a very weak autumn but the overall trend remains sluggish, appearing to justify the decision to lower base rates..... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 7.5 points to close at 3662.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 82.8 to 83.0 after a rise from $1.5315 to $1.5327 and from DM2.2184 to DM2.2221..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: On the evidence of England's 1-1 draw with Portugal, Paul Gascoigne has reached the point at which he is more liability than lynchpin..... **Page 45**

Cricket: Mark Ramprakash and Darren Gough were the only players ruled out as England kept their options open for the third Test against South Africa..... **Page 48**

Rugby union: After their inadequacy against South Africa, England are expected to produce a much improved display against Western Samoa on Saturday..... **Page 46**

Racing: Guy Watkins, chief executive of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club, has been approached about taking over as chairman of the British Horseracing Board's industry committee..... **Page 43**

ARTS

Porcine perfection: The marvellous *Babe*, in which pigs talk, will be the hit of the holiday season; other new films this week include a thriller, *The Tie That Binds*, and a disappointing animated fantasy, *The Swan Princes*..... **Page 35**

Art for the people: Littlewoods heir Peter Moores is establishing a £7 million "people's art gallery" at Compton Verney in the Midlands..... **Page 36**

Dumas staged: *The Tower*, a preposterous but entertaining melodrama by Alexandre Dumas, has been staged with flair at the Almeida Theatre..... **Page 37**

Patti Pacific: A new London production of *South Pacific* casts Patti Boulaye as an engaging Bloody Mary..... **Page 37**

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **JACK ON THE BOX**
Valerie Grove meets Jack Dee (left), the comedian trying to bridge the gap between sharp and showbiz

■ **TRAVEL**
Your chance to win a Caribbean cruise for two





Preview: The obsessions of an American tycoon are revealed in *Secret Lives: Howard Hughes* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond on the new, non-singing Des O'Connor..... **Page 47**

One quarter

This interest rate cut will have to be the first of several if Mr Clarke is to have even a chance of achieving decent growth next year..... **Page 21**

Princely achievement

A celebration of the best in British civic life..... **Page 21**

New Tokyo

Spurred by the fact that the next earthquake is two years overdue, the Japanese Government has recommended relocating the capital..... **Page 21**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG
Look how successful these modernists all are: the Princess of Wales has played a difficult hand as though she held all the trumps; Richard Branson is turning a niche *into a network*; Tony Blair has made Labour an almost universal party of the people. They all use the same rhetoric: new monarchy, new airline, new Labour..... **Page 20**

ROBIN COOK
There is a cross-party majority in *Parliament for constructive* engagement in Europe. Will those Tory MPs who know that Britain's future lies in Europe be willing to assert this majority?..... **Page 20**

PETER RIDDELL
John Major's survival lies not in Commons votes but in the attitudes of his fellow ministers and Tory MPs. There is an aura of defeat about the Government..... **Page 11**

JOHN BRYANT
It used to be said that you could always tell when a sportsman was a bit hard up — he went into pantomime. But pantomime is no longer an end-of-career spot for over-the-hill athletes..... **Page 4**

Enemy territory: Lizzie Noel, the Tory candidate selected to tackle Tony Blair in South Durham, talks to Anne McElvoy..... **Page 19**

Dennis the Menace: Family life can be a misery with a hyperactive child..... **Page 18**

Better deal: British holidaymakers get cheaper package deals than other nationalities..... **Page 40**

Helping aid: Best ways for charities to raise funds and different methods of giving..... **Pages 30-31**

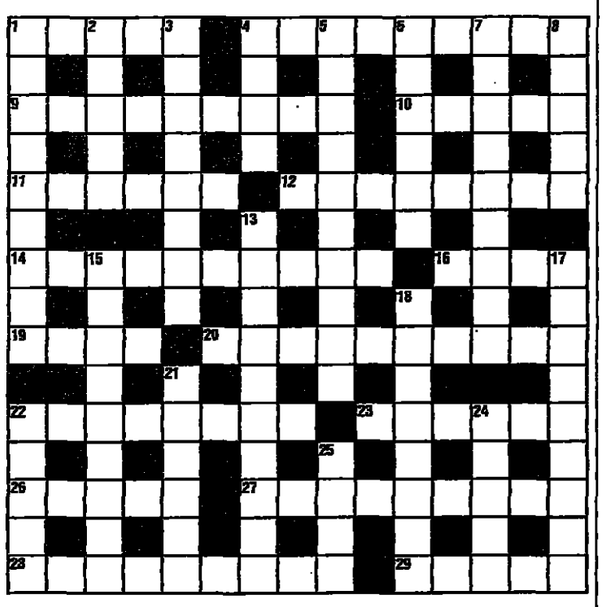
Indomitable Irishry: Roy Foster celebrates Ireland's *astonishing* impact on world literature; Brian Alderson on a life of Lewis Carroll; Marc Jordan on the mystery of ancient portraits..... **Page 38**

In the great booze debate the media are tipsy on controversy and merry on indignation, having consumed hogsheads of outrage. It is reassuring to hear a Minister speaking ordinary good sense — and depressing to hear the naive or cynical row whipped up about it. We should raise a glass to Stephen Dorrell — *Evening Standard*

Gillian Rose, philosopher; **John Bunting**, publisher; **John Heawood**, actor and dancer; **Sir David Lightbown**, MP..... **Page 23**

Drinking limits: NHS policy U-turn; London treaties of the past..... **Page 21**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,038



ACROSS

1 Wish well, but give equivalent of beta minus (5).
4 I can still get excited enough to produce a little spark (9).
9 Collection of sweet drinks (4-5).
10 Infatuation with a Turkish officer (5).
11 Seal up sick note written by doctor (6).
12 Moved camp (8).
14 Terminate discussion of capital punishment (10).
16 Row either way in boat, if fitter (4).
19 Stupid type given inside information (4).
20 One operating still as a pirate (10).
22 Unharmed, protected by Hadrian's Wall? (4-4).
23 Simple book put right — lines entered the wrong way round (6).
26 A contemptuous expression is silly (5).
27 Hanging on to endless underclothes is no good (9).
28 Jealous author you had once cut (5-4).
29 Drunk is securely held (5).

DOWN

1 Take over, given encouragement, with members being bent (3-6).
2 Being discriminating by gender, rejecting first son (5).
3 Unseemly haste to get into action (8).
4 Tail-end of organized workers' rising (4).
5 Imprecise notes in endless case (10).
6 One pays extra for this sort of truck (6).
7 Sort of shoe, maybe, for end of evening? (4,5).
8 Prize the opposite of peace in our time? (5).
13 Scoring method, of course, acceptable in extra match under way (6,4).
15 Is in better position to be inventive (9).
17 Warm glow here, if the girl is excited (9).
18 Violent, very masculine types held in check (8).
21 After repair, hang a fine sort of rug (6).
22 Point archbishop follows up in informal speech (5).
24 Fetch ship, around noon (5).
25 Eat up, girl (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,037

H	A	N	D	C	L	A	P		O	D	D	S	O	N
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Times Two Crossword, page xx

TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
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Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
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N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
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North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Saunton Sands, Devon, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Strathallan, Tayside, 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Manston, Kent, 0.37in, highest sunshine: Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 5.0hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a mainly cloudy start with the chance of a little drizzle at times in the south. Drier and brighter weather across the north will spread to all parts during the morning with occasional sunny spells in the west.

The east will have isolated showers, falling as sleet over high ground. Windy in the south. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be rather cloudy with occasional bright spells. There will be sunny breaks from time to time, mainly in western Scotland

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England:** A dull, damp start, dry with some bright spells later. Sleet afer dark. Wind northeast, fresh or strong. Cold in the wind. Max temp 6C(43F).

☐ **E Anglia, E Midlands, E England, Central N, NE England, Borders:** Mainly cloudy, some bright spells, isolated showers. Wind northeast fresh. Cool in the breeze. Max temp 5C (41F).

☐ **W Midlands, Wales, NW England, Lake District, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** Mainly dry and bright, sunny spells. Wind northeast fresh. Cool in the breeze. Max temp 6C (43F).

☐ **Isle of Man, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, North West Scotland, and Northern Ireland:** Cloudy with some bright or sunny spells. Wind east or northeast, fresh becoming gentle. Max temp 6C (43F).

☐ **NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Rather cloudy with some bright spells. Wind variable in direction, light. Max temp 7C (45F).

☐ **Outlook:** Friday and Saturday will be mainly cloudy with some bright spells. Dry for most, a little sleet in the south.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

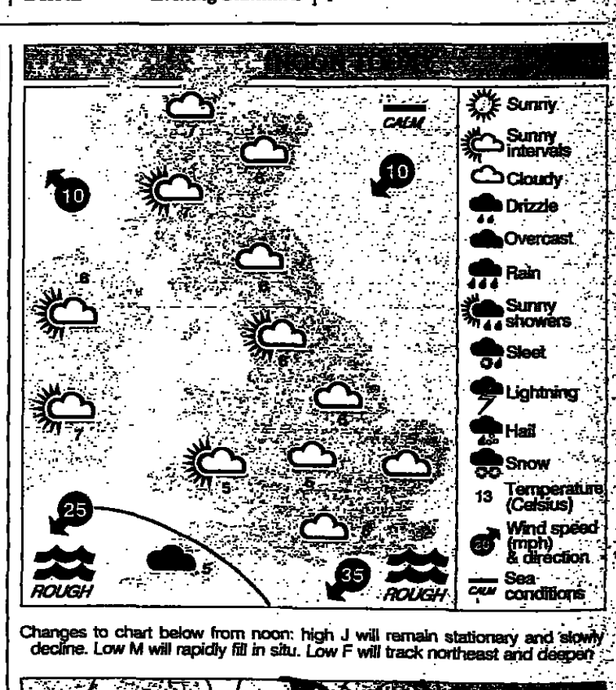
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.1	0.02	5	41	r	London	-	0.02	8	46	d
Anglesey	1.4	-	8	46	b	Lowestoft	-	0.15	7	45	d
Aspatria	0.9	-	6	43	sh	Manchester	-	-	7	45	c
Aviemore	-	0.05	4	39	r	Margate	-	0.26	7	45	r
Belfast	0.7	-	7	45	b	Minehead	0.3	-	8	46	c
Birmingham	-	0.01	6	43	sh	Morecambe	0.5	-	7	45	sh
Bognor R	-	0.01	7	45	sh	Newcastle	0.1	0.07	7	45	sh
Bournem'th	-	-	7	45	c	Newquay	-	-	9	48	c
Bristol	0.8	0.01	8	46	sh	Norwich	-	0.20	8	46	r
Buxton	-	-	5	41	du	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	3.1	-	8	46	s	Oxford	X				
Clacton	-	0.16	7	45	r	Penzance	-	-	9	48	du
Colwyn Bay	0.3	-	7	45	c	Plymouth	-	-	10	50	du
Cromer	-	0.14	8	46	sh	Poole	-	-	9	48	du
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	-	7	45	c
Eastbourne	-	0.02	7	45	r	Ross-o-wye	1.0	0.01	8	46	c
Edinburgh	-	-	6	43	r	Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	-	0.01	5	41	sh	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	-	-	7	45	c	Sandown	-	-	8	46	du
Falmouth	0.8	-	10	50	b	Saunton Snd	2.3	-	11	52	b
Fishguard	1.1	-	8	46	c	Scarboro'	-	0.06	7	45	c
Folkestone	-	0.10	5	41	d	Shanklin	-	-	7	45	c
Glasgow	2.5	-	8	43	b	Shrewsbury	-	-	6	43	c
Guernsey	-	0.03	10	50	sh	Skegness	0.5	0.06	7	45	sh
Hastings	-	0.09	6	43	d	Southend	-	0.07	7	45	c
Hayling I.	-	-	8	46	sh	Southport	-	-	7	45	c
Herne Bay	-	0.11	7	45	d	Southsea	-	-	8	46	sh
Hove	-	0.02	7	45	d	St. Ives	X				
Hunstanton	-	0.07	7	45	c	Stornoway	0.4	-	8	46	sh
Ilfracombe	X					Swanage	-	-	8	46	c
Isle of Man	4.1	-	8	46	s	Teignmouth	-	-	9	48	c
Jersey	0.1	-	7	45	c	Tenby	X				
Kinloss	-	0.02	6	43	sh	Tiree	5.0	-	7	45	s
Leeds	0.1	-	7	45	c	Torquay	-	-	9	48	c
Lerwick	0.4	-	4	39	sh	Tynemouth	-	0.03	8	46	r
Leuchars	0.1	-	6	43	sh	Ventnor	-	-	7	45	d
Littlehmptn	-	0.03	7	45	d	West-s-mare	X				
Liverpool	0.5	-	7	45	c	Weymouth	-	-	9	48	c

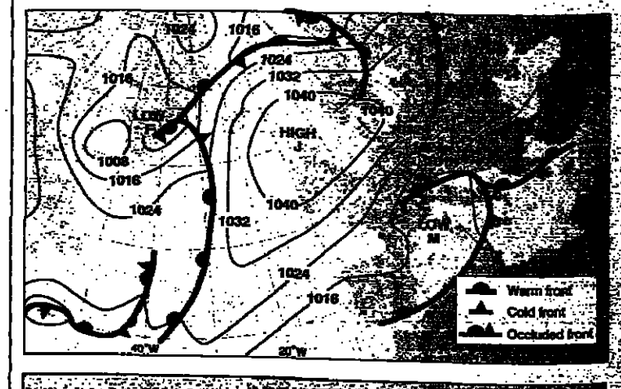
ABROAD

Ajaccio	8	46	f	Corfu	14	57	f	Majorca	13	55	c
Akrotiri	16	61	s	C'phagn	2	36	sl	Malaga	17	63	s
Alex'dria	18	64	c	Dublin	8	46	r	Malta	17	63	s
Algiers	18	64	s	Dubrovnik	10	50	r	Melb'rne	18	64	r
Amst'dm	2	36	r	Faro	14	57	r	Mexico C	X		
Athens	12	54	c	Florence	3	37	sl	Miami	24	75	c
B Aires	30	86	s	Frankfurt	2	36	r	Milan	4	39	r
Bahrain	19	66	c	Funchal	19	66	s	Moscow	-4	25	c
Bangkok	31	88	s	Geneva	0	32	s	Munich	-2	28	sn
Barbados	29	84	r	Gibraltar	16	61	s	N Delhi	18	64	s
Barcelona	11	52	r	Helsinki	-1	30	c	N York	-3	27	s
Beirut	15	59	s	Hong K	23	73	s	Nairobi	19	66	r
Belgrade	2	36	c	Innsbrck	-1	30	c	Naples	14	57	c
Berlin	0	32	sn	Istanbul	11	52	s	Nice	9	48	r
Bermuda	17	63	c	Jeddah	29	79	s	Oslo	0	32	s
Biarritz	5	41	c	Jo'burg	21	70	s	Paris	3	36	r
Bord'x	5	41	s	Karachi	X			Peking	0	32	sl
Brussels	2	36	r	L Angels	16	61	c	Perth	27	81	s
Budapst	0	32	sn	L Palmas	18	64	r	Prague	-3	27	sn
Cairo	18	64	r	Le Touet	3	37	r	Reykjavik	7	45	r
Cape Tn	30	86	r	Lisbon	13	66	s	Rhodes	15	59	r
Ch'church	15	59	c	Luxembg	1	34	c	Rio de J	29	84	r
Chicago	-8	18	sn	Lusor	20	68	s	Rio de J	24	75	r
Cologne	1	34	c	Madrid	5	41	s	Riyadh	16	61	s

Majorca	13	55	c	Rome	13	55	c	Sydney	19	66	s
Malaga	17	63	s	S Fr'sco	17	63	c	Tangier	17	63	c
Malta	17	63	s	S Paulo	23	73	c	Tel Aviv	15	59	r
Melb'rne	18	64	r	Salzburg	-2	28	c	Tenerife	21	70	c
Mexico C	X			Santiago	30	86	s	Tokyo	12	54	s
Miami	24	75	c	Seoul	6	43	c	Toronto	-6	21	sn
Milan	4	39	r	Sing'por	32	90	r	Tunis	18	64	r
Moscow	-4	25	c	St'kholm	-1	30	s	Valencia	15	59	s
Munich	-2	28	sn	Strasb'rg	-1	34	r	Vanc'ver	9	48	r
N Delhi	18	64	s	Sydney	19	66	s	Venice	4	39	r
N York	-3	27	s	Tangier	17	63	c	Vienna	-2	28	c
Nairobi	19	66	r	Tel Aviv	15	59	r	Warsaw	-4	25	sn
Naples	14	57	c	Tenerife	21	70	c	Wash'ton	0	32	c
Nice	9	48	r	Tokyo	12	54	s	Wel'ngton	21	70	s
Oslo	0	32	s	Toronto	-6	21	sn	Zurich	-1	30	r



Changes to chart below from noon: high J will remain stationary and slowly decline. Low M will rapidly fill in situ. Low F will track northeast and deepen



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5:34	6.38	6:18	6.43	Leith	7:00	4.74	7:15	4.86
Aberdeen	5:43	3.64	5:53	3.73	Liverpool	3:11	7.99	3:29	7.87
Avonmouth	11:04	10.04	11:30	10.56	Lowestoft	1:13	2.36	2:14	2.13
Belfast	3:07	2.89	3:30	3.30	Margate	3:41	4.30	4:20	4.10
Cardiff	10:44	10.33	11:10	9.74	Milford Haven	10:24	5.78	10:51	5.68
Devonport	9:45	4.78	10:14	4.50	Newquay	9:24	5.53	9:52	5.28
Dover	2:56	5.86	3:13	5.82	Oban	9:39	3.43	10:17	3.13
Dublin	3:57	3.42	4:23	3.54	Penzance	8:50	4.79	9:19	4.52
Falmouth	9:09	4.37	9:39	4.05	Portland	10:00	1.86	10:58	1.49
Glasgow	5:11	3.88	5:22	4.38	Portsmouth	3:21	4.28	3:28	4.07
Harwich	3:30	3.51	4:04	3.55	Shoreham	2:56	5.37	3:14	5.18
Holyhead	2:29	4.69	2:43	4.81	Southampton	2:53	4.10	3:09	3.97
Hull	10:28	6.19	10:38	6.33	Swansea	10:26	7.79	10:54	7.45
Ilfracombe	10:00	7.72	10:32	7.39	Tees	8:10	4.44	8:21	4.39
King's Lynn	10:29	5.32	10:51	5.38	W'ton-on-Nze	3:28	3.85	4:05	3.59

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.59 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets 11.40 am
Moon rises 11.39 pm

London 3.52 pm to 7.59 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.09 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.37 am
Manchester 3.49 pm to 8.18 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.14 am

Last quarter tomorrow

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صدر ١٣٥ من الاصل



ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

More interest rate cuts will follow in the near future



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The faces that endured for two thousand years



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Has Gascoigne reached point of no return?

SIR FREDDIE RELAUNCHES US FLIGHTS

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — THURSDAY DECEMBER 14 1995

Home loan rate at 30-year low

By Janet Bush and Robert Miller

THE cost of a home loan fell to the lowest level in nearly 30 years as mortgage lenders matched yesterday's quarter-point cut in base lending rates.

Homeowners can look now look forward to the new year when they will see falls in their monthly repayments in both January and February.

The double bonus comes about because the Halifax Building Society had already moved to cut its lending rate by ¼ point two weeks ago, a move followed by other lenders. Yesterday, Britain's biggest lender lowered its standard variable mortgage rate again to 7.49 per cent, with immediate effect for new borrowers and from February 1 for existing borrowers.

The Halifax said the latest move would cut the cost of a £30,000 repayment loan in February by £4 a month to £202.44 while a £50,000 loan would fall by £7.28 to £345.40 a month. Savings for homeowners from the two cuts mean that after February monthly outgoings on a £50,000 loan will have fallen by nearly £15 compared to present levels.

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1966 and all that 2
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Charles Toner, managing director of Abbey National, which cut its variable rate to 7.54 per cent for loans up to £59,999, said: "Abbey National's mortgage interest rates are now at their lowest levels since the late 1960s. This will be a welcome Christmas present for new and existing mortgage customers and is good news for the housing market."

Other lenders to announce rate cuts included National & Provincial Building Society to 7.54 per cent, Portman to 7.49 per cent and Northern Rock to 7.44 per cent, its lowest level since 1967.

The City and business clearly believes that yesterday's small cut in base rates is only the first of a series of downward movements in rates. Forecasts suggest that the economy was very weak in the final quarter of this year and that this will carry through into the spring, prompting more action by the Government. Virtually every industrial and business body argued yesterday that, while welcome, the ¼ point cut will not be enough to revive the economy. The Building Employers Confederation said that the cut will have little impact on the construction industry or the housing market. The Institute of Directors said it would like to see the Chancellor do more and the Confederation of British Industry said that, if there are indications of a further slowdown over the next couple of months and inflation remains subdued, it would recommend another cut.

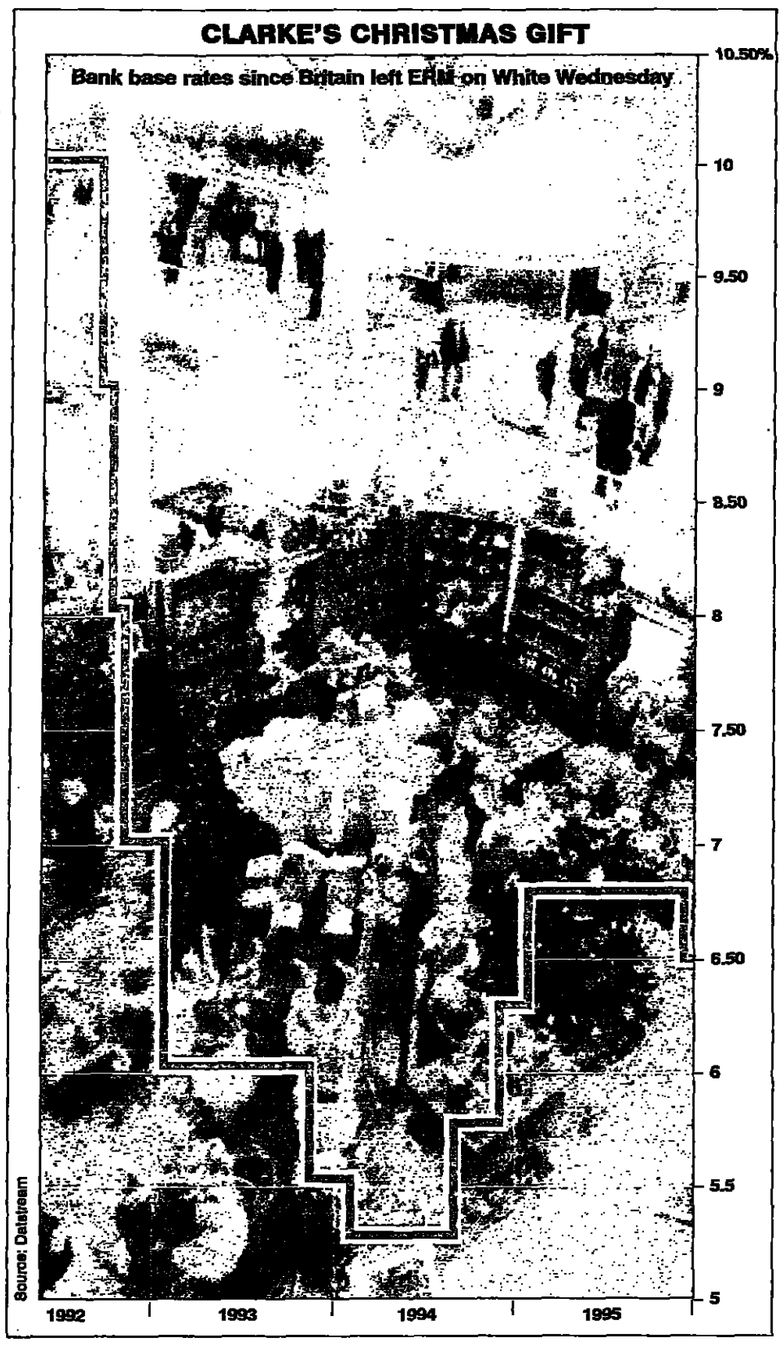
The three wise men currently on the Treasury's forecasting panel who earlier this week urged the Chancellor to cut rates believe there will be further cuts. Professor Patrick Minford, of the University of Liverpool, said yesterday's cut was inadequate. But Gavyn Davies, of Goldman Sachs International, and Professor Tim Congdon, of Lombard Street Research, both argued that the move was sensible. Mr Davies said that it was much better for the Chancellor to proceed at the pace desired by the Governor of the Bank of England.

After an initial rally, shares and gilts quickly settled, with traders, disappointed by the minimal cut in base rates, focused their attention on today's meeting of the Bundesbank's policy-making council and the meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee in the US next week, both of which may yield interest rate cuts.

The FT-SE index of 100 leading British shares ended 7.5 points higher at 3,662.4 while gilts saw most of their early gains erased, partly because of another robust set of data from America which may make a US rate cut less likely.

CLARKE'S CHRISTMAS GIFT

Bank base rates since Britain left ERM on White Wednesday



Unemployment down for 27th month in a row

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

UNEMPLOYMENT has fallen to a four-year low, leading the Government to claim that its policies are clearly delivering economic growth.

The latest fall in the seasonally adjusted number of people out of work and claiming benefit came as the Government revised last month's surprise increase in unemployment so that claimant unemployment has now been falling for 27 months in succession.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, said the 20,400 fall in the number of people out of work was "very good news". The fall in unemployment in November was four times what City forecasts had been predicting, with seasonally adjusted unemployment dropping to 2,244,500 — down 20,400 on the revised figure for October.

Last month, the Government said unemployment had risen by 200, but this has been revised to a fall of 400, to take October's revised level to 2,264,900.

The revision means that the three-month trend is now running at a monthly fall of about 16,000. The November fall, which takes the unemployment rate down to 8 per cent, means seasonally adjusted unemployment has now fallen in an unbroken series since August 1993. Claimant unemployment fell in every region for both men and women.

The figure for unadjusted unemployment fell by 16,200 to 2,196,136, and Eric Forth, Education and Employment Minister, welcomed the fall as "further evidence that Britain's flexible and deregulated labour market, tight control of public spending and low taxes are delivering economic growth and the jobs that go with it".

But the fall in unemployment coincided with a drop in employment, with further figures from the Central Statistical Office showing that the total workforce in employment decreased 22,000 to 25.7 million.

Officials pointed out that employment was still up by 81,000 year-on-year, and ministers said that full details published yesterday from the quarterly *Labour Force Survey* showed that the economic recovery had put half a million more people back into work. The Government is expected next month to publish its long-awaited report on how it reconciles these two differing sets of employment figures.

Labour and the trade unions seized on the fall in employment as evidence that the recovery was petering out, and the TUC also pointed out that the 20,400 fall in claimant unemployment was less than half the fall recorded for the same month last year, when it dropped by 44,200.

Michael Meacher, Shadow Employment Secretary, said: "People are leaving the unemployment count not because they have found jobs — even the temporary and part-time work that is such a feature of our insecure economy — but because they have dropped out of the labour market altogether."

John Monks, TUC General Secretary, said: "Any improvement in the labour market recovery as we enter the New Year could now prove to be short lived unless the Government takes immediate action to offset the job-destroying measures contained in last month's Budget."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3662.4	(+7.5)
Yield	3.94%	
FT-SE A All share	1785.58	(+3.40)
Nikkei	19283.48	(–29.29)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5201.66	(+28.74)*
S&P Composite	620.96	(+2.18)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 11/16%*	(5 11/16%)
Long Bond	111 1/4*	(111 7/32)
Yield	6.06%*	(6.06%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 7/16%	(6 1/2%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	111 16	(110 25/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5323*	(1.5335)
London:		
$	1.5325	(1.5291)
DM	2.2229	(2.2152)
FFr	7.7000	(7.6540)
SFr	1.8045	(1.7975)
Yen	155.87	(155.70)
£ Index	83.0	(82.8)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4510*	(1.4473)
FFr	5.0295*	(4.9973)
SFr	1.1772*	(1.1753)
Yen	101.72*	(101.78)
$ Index	94.4	(94.4)

Tokyo close Yen 101.65

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb) $17.40 ($17.35)

GOLD

London close $387.85 ($388.40)

* denotes midday trading price

MFI hopes

John Randall, managing director at MFI, said the future shape of the group depended on its performance during the winter sale. MFI is Britain's largest retailer and manufacturer of kitchen and bedroom furniture and started testing a new format in August.
Page 27

Liffe

Technical problems at our supplier of Liffe prices and statistics have prevented publication of yesterday's closing prices. We apologise for the repetition of the previous day's prices.

Shop sales look up but trend is still fragile

By Our Economics Correspondent

HIGH STREET sales bounced back in November after a very weak performance during the autumn, but the overall trend remains sluggish, appearing to justify the decision yesterday to lower base rates.

Volumes rose 0.6 per cent last month and October's originally reported fall of 0.2 per cent was revised to a marginal gain of 0.1 per cent. Annual growth in sales increased to 1.1 per cent from 0.3 per cent in October, still signalling how weak sales have been.

Two of the strongest rises in November were in sales of clothing and footwear and household goods, which were up 2.7 per cent and 1.2 per cent compared with October. Michael Saunders of Salomon Brothers said that sales of clothing and footwear were depressed in October, presumably because winter clothing sales were hit by the unusually warm weather, and that colder weather last month may have prompted a recovery.

Despite the more healthy overall figure, retail sales trends are fragile. In the last three months, sales volumes rose only 0.1 per cent compared with the previous three months, and 0.4 per cent compared with a year ago. It was also clear that pricing remains extremely competitive and bodes well for today's retail prices figures. The retail sales deflator dropped to 3.1 per cent year on year compared with 3.4 per cent in October, with a sharp fall in prices of household goods.

City economists said yesterday that retail sales ought to pick up a little in coming months as rebates on electricity bills from the sale of the National Grid are paid out and building society mergers yield bonuses. However, there was still scepticism that consumer spending will be as strong as the Chancellor forecast last month without more cuts in base rates in the spring.

John Randall, managing director at MFI, the UK's largest retailer and manufacturer of kitchen and bedroom furniture, welcomed the base rate cut as "better than a poke in the eye with a bent stick". The firm's fortunes are tied to the state of consumer confidence and the housing market.

Pennington, page 27

Pearson shares fall on warning

By Eric Reguly

SHARES of Pearson plummeted yesterday after it announced that higher-than-expected reorganisation costs and sluggish trading at some of its business units, including Madame Tussauds and Penguin books, would damage earnings growth this year.

The shares finished at 618p, down 49p or 7.3 per cent. Trading volume was high at 6.8 million.

The profits warning came as a surprise to the City. Analysts, who attended a Pearson meeting expecting to learn about new board appointments, were told that adjusted earnings per share in the current financial year would be "modestly below" the low end of their estimates, which ranged from 29.3p a share to 34.1p. Earnings forecasts were quickly downgraded.

Henderson Crosthwaite, the investment firm, now expects Pearson to report full-year pre-tax profits of £237 million, or 27.5p, against its previous forecast of £279 million, or 32.7p. Other firms reduced their profits forecast to as low as £235 million. Pearson said a rise in reorganisation costs from £12 million to £45 million are behind the lower earnings.

About half of the increase is related to the costs of restructuring back-office functions, such as combining the information technology sections of publishing companies.

The remainder relates to smaller reorganisations, such as closing down offices at Grundy Worldwide, the TV programmes maker acquired in May.

Pearson also said that trading results were mixed. Tussauds, it said, "has made little advance over 1994" while Penguin has had a "disappointing year" because of the trend to lower-margin retail pricing in Britain.

Separately, the company announced that John Makinson, managing director of the *Financial Times*, will join the board in April, replacing James Joll as finance director. David Bell, chief executive of the *Financial Times*, and Greg Dyke, chief executive of Pearson Television, will also join the board.

Pennington, page 27

'Secret hold' in Britain's boardrooms

By Marianne Curphey

FINANCIAL institutions have such sway with the companies in which they invest that they secretly influence directors' appointments, pay, perks and contracts, new research claimed yesterday.

This behind-the-scenes power goes beyond the approach recommended by the Cadbury committee, which called on institutional investors to play a more important role in the ethics of running a company and the responsibilities to shareholders, according to John Holland, professor of International Banking and Finance at Glasgow University.

He conducted interviews among 27 fund directors and managers from the top 35 UK equity investing financial institutions, and found institutions attempted to use their close working relationship with companies to intervene regularly on issues of corporate governance and financial performance.

Pennington, page 27

Ofwat demands separate quotes

By Alasdair Murray

IAN BYATT, the Director-General of Water Services (Ofwat), yesterday demanded separate Stock Exchange listings for all regulated water businesses after takeovers or mergers.

The move is likely to affect the current North West Water/Norweb and Welsh Water/Swalec deals. It could also deter any conglomerates considering making a bid for a water company and prevent the water sector being subject to the wholesale takeovers that have been seen among regional electricity companies.

Mr Byatt, who was speaking at the Adam Smith Institute in London, said he wanted to see separate listings to ensure that sufficient transparency was maintained to allow effective regulation. Listing a company's shares on the Stock Exchange involves making at least 25 per cent of the company's shares available for trading.

Ofwat has also been concerned that the loss of three water companies from the Stock Exchange would harm its ability to make comparisons across the industry, making the job of regulating the remaining water companies more difficult.

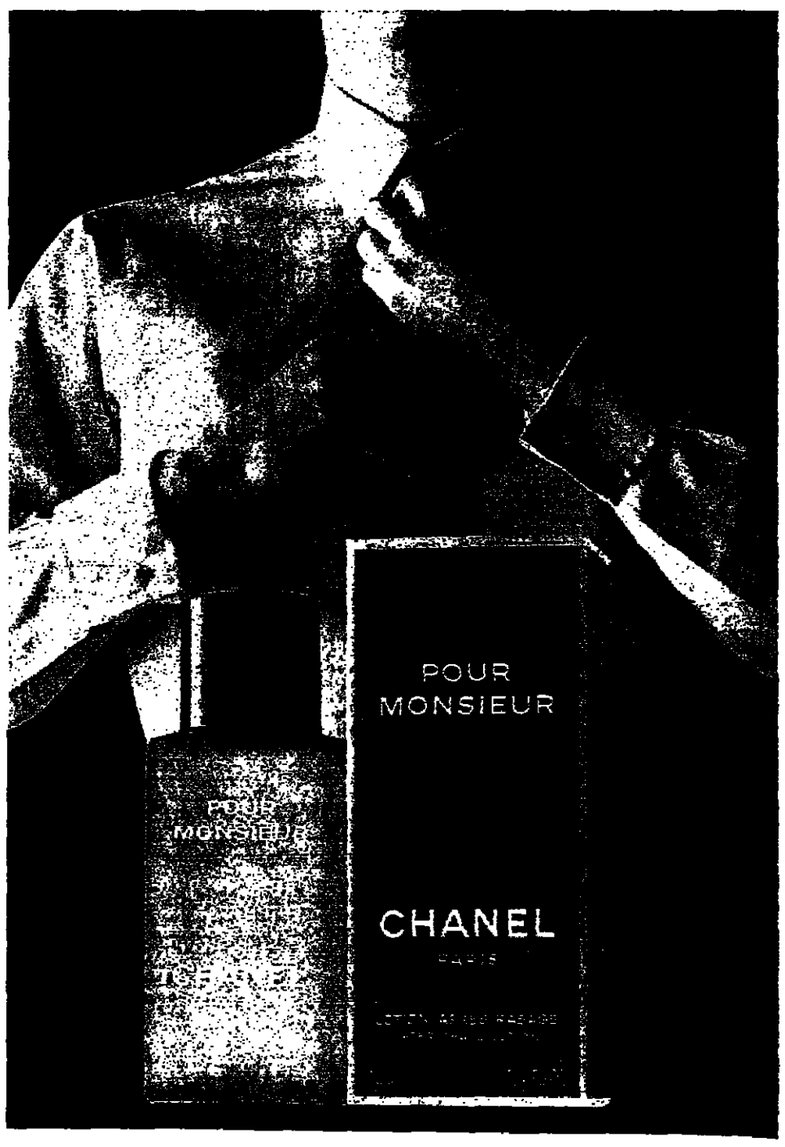
Mr Byatt said: "Listing would provide the regulator with stock market information and would formalise an arm's length relationship between the regulated water business and its group."

"In the case of an outside company acquiring a regulated water business, a Stock Exchange listing would be an important protection against any attempt to run down assets."

Lyonnaise des Eaux, which took over Northumbrian Water last month, has already agreed to float the regulated side of its business by the year 2005.

Mr Byatt is keen to strike similar agreements with Welsh Water and North West Water, although Ofwat has no direct power to enforce a separate listing.

Ofwat has justified the lengthy time as giving sufficient time to prepare for flotation and allow the move to be made at an opportune time for the market.



POUR MONSIEUR
ELEGANCE IS TIMELESS
CHANEL

Investors get boost from East Midlands

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

EAST MIDLANDS Electricity, one of the last three regional electricity companies not to have been bid for, yesterday committed £238 million to a shareholder giveaway.

The company, which wiped out its debt and gathered £13.5 million in cash after strong cash generation fuelled by a tightening of operational costs over its last half year, is to pay a special dividend of £1.20 per share. This is the highest payout offered by an electricity company except for that of Northern Electric, which earlier this year announced a large package of returns in an effort to shield it from bidders. Once the special dividend is paid in March, the gearing of East Midlands, which was the first of the electricity companies to issue a special dividend with its 85p payout last year, will climb to about 80 per cent.

East Midlands — the subject of repeated bid speculation, especially concerning US utility companies thought to still be on the prowl — would not comment on any potential bid. Norman Askew, chief executive, insisted that the business — in a new tripartite format that is being developed — would be in a strong position to stay independent after the energy market opens to full competition in 1998.

By March, East Midlands intends to have restructured itself as three separate businesses handling distribution; metering; and supply of both electricity and gas. Mr Askew, who denies that such a measure heralds full demerger or a sale of parts of the company, said: "With the various roles separated out, there will be far more transparency and it will be easier to attack costs."

There will be further job cuts in the company, which has been disposing of non-core businesses. Over the past three years, the payroll has shrunk from 8,500 to 4,680, with those working directly for the electricity business falling from 5,400 to 3,885.

East Midlands, which has a joint gas venture with Mobil and which will take part in the experimental opening of gas to competition in the South West next spring, has no plans for major investment.

Pre-tax profits for the half to September 30 rose 12.4 per cent to £96.7 million with some benefits feeding through from recent disposals. The interim dividend, due on February 2, rises by 7 per cent to 9.2p. Mr Askew rejected some City criticism that the ordinary dividend was too modest. He said: "This sector is like none I've ever worked in before. People make promises on dividends four or five years ahead. We've never done that nor intend to."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.15	1.99
Austria Sch	16.83	15.13
Belgium Fr	48.83	44.33
Canada $	2.213	2.053
Cyprus Cypf.	0.748	0.691
Denmark Kr	9.21	8.41
Finland Mkk	7.24	6.59
France Fr	8.08	7.43
Germany Dm	2.37	2.16
Greece Dr	388.00	363.00
Hong Kong $	12.48	11.48
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1600	4.5100
Italy Lira	2563.00	2398.00
Japan Yen	169.90	153.90
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.637	2.407
New Zealand $	2.52	2.30
Norway Kr	10.38	9.58
Portugal Esc	244.00	225.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.36
Spain Pta	195.50	182.50
Sweden Kr	10.94	10.14
Switzerland Fr	1.94	1.76
Turkey Lira	refer	82019.0
USA $	1.627	1.497

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



GILL ALLEN

Henry Schuldenfrei, chief executive, forecasts a good second half for Worthington

Worthington on the button

WORTHINGTON Group, the supplier of buttons and shoulder pads, said that although market conditions remain erratic the company expects to achieve satisfactory financial results in the second half.

In the six months to September the company, whose chief executive is Henry Schuldenfrei, increased profits to £909,000 before tax from £811,000, a 12 per cent rise. Turnover edged forward to £12.8 million from £12.3 million.

Mr Schuldenfrei said: "The long summer and the late arrival of colder weather has affected retail sales and thus repeat orders expected from many outwear garment manufacturers have been delayed." Long-term contracts recently signed for 1996 were showing the benefits of improved product sourcing.

Earnings rose to 2.57p a share from 2.38p. The company recommends an interim dividend of 0.8p a share, due April 4, rising from 0.7p previously.

Worthington shares fell 4p to 75p.

Decision due on German rate cut

FROM PETER BILD IN BONN

THE Bundesbank's central council meets today to consider whether to alter German interest rates and to set out a new target for money supply.

Most Bundesbank watchers consider a cut in the discount and Lombard rates "still unlikely but not impossible". A more significant indicator of the Bank's monetary stance will come with the announcement of its M3 growth target for next year.

Expectations are rising, especially among non-German traders, that the Bundesbank will lift its M3 target range one point to 5-7 per cent while lopping 0.5 percentage points off the 3.5 per cent discount and 5.5 per cent Lombard rates.

But many Frankfurt watchers believe the Bundesbank will continue to play the game of keeping expectations of rate cuts alive for a few weeks more. The Bundesbank likes teasing the market, which helps it to sell government bonds to finance the public sector deficit without raising inflationary expectations.

The bank acknowledges that the economy is lagging well behind expectations. Its latest figures show zero economic growth in the third quarter over the second, with no visible improvement in the final months of this year. But it argues that adjusting short-term lending rates does nothing for an economy driven by capital market costs that are only loosely linked to money market action.

Peter Pietsch, Commerzbank chief economist, said: "Interest rates are not the reason for weak investment in Germany. It's high wages and other employment costs that cause German firms to invest abroad rather than at home." Herr Pietsch is more confident than other economists that the Bundesbank will keep its M3 growth target unchanged at 4-6 per cent. He believes a higher M3 target would signal the laxity that the Bundesbank is most anxious to avoid.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Supermarket war slows Kwik Save

KWIK SAVE, the discount food retailer, yesterday revealed it has not escaped unscathed from the resurgence of the supermarket price war. Speaking at the company's annual meeting, Simon Keswick, chairman, told shareholders that the group's sales and margins were under pressure. The news prompted analysts to cut their full-year profits forecasts and the shares fell 39p to 519p — a new low for the year.

Some analysts had hoped the discount chain would not be affected by the price war now raging between the leading supermarket groups. Key fresh produce prices, such as bananas, have fallen sharply as rival food retailers battle to woo customers. But while Kwik Save does not compete in the fresh produce area, it appears to have lost customers. Mr Keswick told shareholders that while total sales were 10 per cent up in the first 15 weeks of the year, growth had slowed because of further intensification of pricing activity.

Chairman to make £2.5m

ALGY CLUFF, chairman of Cluff Resources, the African gold miner, will make more than £2.5 million when his company is taken over by Ashanti Goldfields. Some £735,000 will come from options, some issued at only 25p. Ashanti is offering cash of 105p a share. Mr Cluff is urging Cluff shareholders to hold on to the last moment, pending rumoured corporate moves in the gold market. Reports have suggested that the giant Anglo American Corporation may be planning to take control of Ashanti.

Appeal over part-timers

THE TUC is to appeal against the rejection last week by the industrial tribunal of claims by 60,000 part-time workers to backdate pension benefits. The appeal will be heard by the Employment Appeal Tribunal in London, starting March 11. The TUC will spend up to £30,000 co-ordinating up to 24 test cases. The European Court of Justice ruled last year that part-timers had the right to join their employer's pension scheme if they could prove indirect discrimination. Workers can also backdate benefits, but the court set no limits for backdating.

Widney 39% ahead

WIDNEY, the mechanical and electronic engineering company, announced a 39 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.65 million (£1.12 million) for the year to September 30. The company also proposed moving away from its "penny share" image with the conversion of every 12.5 old shares into one new share. Earnings per share rose by 12.3 per cent, to 0.82p (0.73p), but growth was limited by a tax charge of £248,000. A final dividend of 0.2p will be paid to shareholders on April 8, making a total dividend for the year of 0.275p (0.2p).

Birkby raises dividend

BIRKBY, the Huddersfield retail and commercial property company, announced an increase in its interim dividend yesterday, despite a decline in profits. Pre-tax profits for the six months to September 30 fell 7.3 per cent to £3.8 million (£4.1 million). But the interim dividend rose to 2.2p (2.0p), payable to shareholders on April 3. Earnings per share slipped to 6.3p from 8.2p for the same period last year. Despite short-term uncertainty, Bill Cran, chief executive, was confident about the medium to long-term outlook.

Granada mines Gold

GRANADA, the ITV company, confirmed yesterday that it had formed a joint venture with BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster in which it has a 10.8 per cent stake, to launch eight Sky channels next year. They will include Granada Gold, which will draw from the company's extensive programming library, a health and beauty channel, a men and motoring channel and talks shows. Granada will initially have 20 per cent of the venture; BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, will have 80 per cent.

Apollo profits rocket

APOLLO METALS, the aluminium processing and distribution company, announced a leap in pre-tax profits to £3.17 million (£291,000) for the year to September 30. Profits were boosted by two acquisitions in late 1994 and an increase in profitability. Earnings per share rose to 7.7p (0.0p). A final dividend of 2.6p, to be paid on February 22, takes the total dividend to 3.9p compared to 3.6p the year before. Albert Hargreaves, chairman, predicted continued growth, and the shares closed up 3p at 111p.

Bank of Scotland grows

THE Bank of Scotland has set up its own merchant bank subsidiary in Australia. BOS International is backed by an A$750 million (£131 million) capital markets facility and will be providing corporate and infrastructure lending to the Australian market. The creation of a merchant bank marks the latest in a series of Antipodean ventures for the Bank of Scotland, which earlier this year bought Bankwest, Western Australia's biggest bank, for A$900 million and NWS Bank, which is now called Capital Finance.

Cater Allen acquisition

CATER ALLEN, the financial services group, is to spend £7.25 million on acquiring City Deal, a bought share dealing and settlement company, from Sherwood Computer Services and City Consultants. City Deal, set up in 1993 to rival ShareLink, specialises in private clients and accounts for 5 per cent of the daily equity trades on the London Stock Exchange. Audited pre-tax profits last year were £346,000. The deal needs the approval of Sherwood's shareholders, who will be called to an extraordinary meeting on December 29.

David S Smith shows 47% rise

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

DAVID S SMITH, the paper and packaging company, overcame difficult market conditions to show a 47.5 per cent rise in half-year profits to £59.6 million.

Peter Williams, chairman, was cautious about the future, though he added current trading was going well. The paper and packaging sector has been hit by a series of profit warnings in recent months after increases in raw material prices and a fall in demand through destocking.

Turnover rose 29 per cent to £613 million and margins from 9.6 to 10.8 per cent. The interim dividend, due on March 11, is up 15.3 per cent at 2.45p. Turnover in the packaging and paper division rose 37 per cent to £438 million and profits from £36 million to £54 million on price rises.

Packaging suffered from a fall in volumes because of higher prices, and the Kayersberg subsidiary suffered from a downturn in the French economy. But KZWP, the newly acquired Polish subsidiary, performed well.

Turnover in office products rose 12 per cent to £175 million and profits increased 12 per cent to £10.5 million. The company said it would exercise its option to purchase 65 per cent of Toscana Ondulati Spa, an Italian packager, by the year end.

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Williams: cautious

Brockbank links with reinsurer

BROCKBANK, one of the biggest and most profitable managing agencies at Lloyd's of London, has ended a three-year search for a strategic partner with the sale of 51 per cent of its equity to a major reinsurance company for £50 million (Sarah Bagnall writes).

However, Mid Ocean, the Bermuda-based reinsurance group, can unwind the deal if certain events occur. These relate principally to Lloyd's attempt to restructure and recapitalise itself. Conversely, if Lloyd's future is secured, Mid Ocean is required to acquire the remaining 49 per cent of Brockbank for a sum based on independent valuation.

Brockbank's shares were suspended at 240p yesterday, valuing it at £28.3 million.

The new funds give Brockbank a constant source of capital when the flow of funds from names is waning, and ends reliance on attracting fresh funds from names on an annual basis. Brockbank's entire business is being transferred into the enlarged group.

Forte seeks inquiry into cost dispute

FORTE has asked the Takeover Panel to investigate Granada's alleged claims that it would cut Forte's annual operating expenses by £100 million if its £3.3 billion bid for the company succeeds (Eric Reguly writes).

Granada would not comment on the £100 million figure, contained in a Sunday newspaper report, but said that it stands by its charge that Forte's businesses are underperforming. A spokeswoman called Forte's appeal to the Takeover Panel "mischief making". Granada itself has complained to the panel about the scale of Forte disposals during the bid period.

Sir Rocco Forte, chairman of Forte, said that Granada would have to fire 4,000 to 5,000 employees, or more than 10 per cent of the workforce, to cut costs by so much. That would "virtually destroy" the company, he said.

Sir Rocco said that Granada's intention to raise prices at the Travelodge budget hotels would be bad for business.



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☐ Another profit warning goes wrong ☐ Barometer of the economy ☐ Institutions in the boardroom

Posh Pearson punished

☐ PEARSON cannot afford to give fund managers a stick to beat it with. Its shares have kept up with the average this year and outperformed longer term. Yet critics of the *Financial Times*, Alton Towers and Lazard group were not likely to tolerate lapses. Pearson appears socially superior, intellectually superior and even morally superior. The irreverent City Neros of the 1990s cordially loathe it for all three.

They refuse to see Pearson as a dynamic 21st century media stock. Instead, they cling to the image of a landed family holding company with pretensions, that tolerates excessive costs and throws money haphazardly after bright ideas, only some of which fly.

Yesterday, the young Neros had a chance to exercise their thumbs. They were turned down swiftly and in unison. Thus a relatively modest profit warning — provisions to cut overheads will be about £30 million worse than expected — knocked 7 per cent off the share price and nearly £300 million of the group's stock market value.

Perhaps analysts were secretly disappointed that Granada bid for Forte instead of Pearson, which is still rather a mouthful after the fall at £3.4 billion. Pearson argues that the extra provisions will help accelerate its transformation into an international media group, complete with global television interests ranging from *This is Your Life* to *Neighbours*. The next stage of this transformation will be funded by the sale of the stake in BSkyB, the newcomer that is already well above Pearson in the market rankings. But the City is not sure it trusts management to reinvest this money.

Unlike Reed, Pearson has been refocusing intermittently and without great enthusiasm to uspet the many internal vested interests. Forget merchant banking. Madame Tussaud's, Alton Towers *et al* are components of a great leisure business. But do they have a place in a focused international media group? Westminster Press, the UK provincial newspaper chain, is mainstream media but is it a big enough unit for an ambitious group that needs all the managing it can get?

The City Neros, being really Jacobins at heart, would doubtless love to see gritty Greg Dyke take the helm. For the moment, they will have to be content with a boardroom shuffle that puts Dyke in the running with others and substitutes one former writer of the FT's *Lex* column for another as finance director.

Pearson remains full of well-assembled possibilities but lacking in headstrong drive. That may be its corporate undoing. But it is not a bad way to shepherd long-term family interests, interests not unlike those that pension funds are supposed to provide for.

Snowman trumps canny Ken

☐ FORGET interest rates. Judging from the unexpected surge in retail sales in November, the best way for Kenneth Clarke to get the economy moving would be to engineer a succession of sharp seasonal weather changes. Just as a mid-October delayed autumn buying so the cold snap had people rushing out for clothes more suited to an old-fashioned British winter.



No greater significance should be given to November's brighter sales than the previous lack of business in the high street, albeit there was not a fall in sales in October as originally suggested. Yet those who keep their finger on the pulse were already detecting some lifting of retail gloom. This was also apparent in the CBI's latest distributive trades survey.

Brief sunny periods have caused misjudgments before, notably in the early months of 1995. The underlying reason for the "feel-bad" factor remains. The rise in average earnings is not enough to pay for higher prices and increased taxes. That is not a formula for resurgence in retail sales and margins.

Every cloud has a silver lining though. It could well be that people have finally given up on the housing market and decided to spend what they have in other ways. If that is happening, it would make room for many to buy the smaller durables, classic department store lines and the more discretionary lines of supermarkets.

The latest mortgage rate cut is unlikely to change short-term perceptions about the housing market but may help big-spending families more than it hurts retired savers. It could even help bring a good Christmas for trade, though there is little evidence of that yet.

Next year, the retail sector could well benefit from such a trend strengthening. Nearly £3 billion of tax cuts will start bolstering bank accounts in the spring. That may not be enough to change spending patterns. But it should start sharing the recovery with consumers and help put a smile on shopkeepers' faces.

Governance/ performance

☐ PROFESSOR John Holland of the University of Glasgow has laboured diligently to produce a 78-page tome on the way in which UK institutions influence boardroom corporate governance, courtesy of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants.

Interviews of an "in-depth" nature were conducted with 27 of the UK's top fund managers. The message is that institutional investors exercise "significant behind-the-scenes influence". According to Mr Holland, financial institutions considered a close working relationship based on "honesty, integrity, stable stakeholding and regular contact" to be one of the most effective ways of exercising such influence.

Mr Holland has also discovered that "much of this process of influence and intervention is conducted outside the public gaze" — not a finding that will surprise many. More quaint are the reasons given for these clandestine goings on, including the law of libel and slander, a UK culture of secrecy and politeness, the speed and efficiency of the process, the "clubby" nature of the City and a preference for a private process rather than public disputes that could damage reputations.

On the correlation of corporate governance and financial performance, the sceptical perspective of one fund manager is worthy of note: "We would push good corporate governance if we were convinced it played a role in good financial performance. Unfortunately, there are some examples of bad corporate governance practice and good financial performance. Has anyone done a study of the companies that have left the FT-SE 100 and those who have joined and associated their failure/success with bad/good corporate governance?" Another paper for Mr Holland?

Winter sale holds the key to shape of future at MFI

By Sarah Bagnall

JOHN RANDALL, managing director at MFI, said the future shape of the group depended on its performance during the critical winter sale, which starts on Boxing Day.

MFI, the UK's largest retailer and manufacturer of kitchen and bedroom furniture, started testing a new format called Homeworks in August. Since then it has converted a further 26 MFI stores. The refurbishment programme is a major plank in MFI's attempt to drive forward sales and lift margins.

Mr Randall said: "Homeworks is extremely important to us and we are very pleased with its performance so far." Although many of the stores have only been trading for a short time, they have outperformed the rest of the group by 10 per cent. However, the real test for these stores will be their performance during the winter sale," he added.

If Homeworks is deemed a success, then the format will be adopted by all the group's 184 UK stores. Mr Randall's remarks came as he reported a 30.7 per cent drop in pre-tax profits to £20.1 million in the 28 weeks to November 11, in spite of a near-5 per cent rise in sales to £380.6 million.

The benefits of increased sales failed to feed through to profits because of a 30 per cent leap in raw material prices over the last 12 months, which MFI was unable to pass on to its customers. These price increases more than offset the benefit to the group of manufacturing more of its products in-house, which is more profitable than out-sourcing the manufacturing.

As a result, gross margin slipped from 52.9 per cent to 51.2 per cent. Net operating margins tumbled even further — from 8.4 per cent to 5.7 per cent — because of the increased depreciation and payroll costs incurred as a result of the group's store opening programme.

Mr Randall said there were signs of an easing in raw material prices but it was too early to tell whether this was the start of a downward trend.

Tony Shiret, a stockbroker at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said: "We believe they are reinventing themselves but it's difficult to judge their success in the light of short-term adverse trading conditions." Mr Shiret is not changing his full-year forecast, which before yesterday's news was one of the lowest in the market. However, several other brokers cut their forecasts, leaving estimates in a range of £52 million to £65 million.

The interim dividend, due February 2, was held at 1.5p and is being paid out of earnings of 2.37p a share, down from 3.3p last time. The shares fell ½p to 153½p.

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Profits and acquisition hopes rise at Chubb

By Eric Reguly

CHUBB, the security products maker, said it is ready to make a series of acquisitions after having completed more than half of a four-year restructuring programme aimed at lifting its market share and profit margins.

The company, which was demerged from Racal Electronics in 1992, has net cash of £63 million and could easily make an acquisition of £100 million or more. David Peacock, chief executive, said: "I'm not against gearing. Having a net debt situation does not cause us any concern."

Mr Peacock said Chubb would not stray from its core businesses of electronic security systems and "physical" products such as safes and locks. Expanding in the fast-growing Asian market, as opposed to the highly competitive American market, is the most likely scenario. First-half operating profits from Asian operations grew from £5.2 million to £6.1 million, or almost a third of the operating profits in Britain.

Mr Peacock said the restructuring effort, which saw the introduction of hundreds of new products, an expanded sales force and new manufacturing sites, has boosted the group's overall performance. Pre-tax profit for the half year to October 13 rose 13.1 per cent to £44.4 million on turnover of £383.2 million, up 5.2 per cent. Earnings per share were 9.6p against 8.2p. The results would have been stronger were it not for the construction downturn in Britain and continental Europe, Mr Peacock said. An interim dividend of 2.6p, up from 2.32p, will be paid on February 14.



JOHN POTTER

John Rudgard, chief executive, is optimistic at Bulmer

Cider sector looking rosy says Bulmer

By Nick Sutton

FURTHER growth in the cider industry was predicted yesterday by John Rudgard, chief executive of HP Bulmer Holdings.

Announcing Bulmer's results for the half-year to October, Mr Rudgard forecast that the UK cider market would rise from 109.5 million gallons a year to 150 million by the year 2000.

Bulmer's turnover has grown 5 per cent to £136.7 million (£130.1 million) during the past six months, and excluding its soft drinks interest which the company disposed of last year, turnover has risen 19.3 per cent.

Pre-tax profits rose 11.9 per cent to £16.0 million (£14.3 million), and earnings per share rose to 19.40p (17.31p). The interim dividend will be 4.55p (4.25p). The market reacted positively to the results, with the shares rising 3p to close at 498p.

Chief's £2.7m as Co-op supplier is sold

Hillsdown buys Hobson

By Paul Durman

HILLSDOWN HOLDINGS, the food group, is paying £121 million to take over Hobson, the company that supplies 99 tea to the Co-op.

The deal brings a temporary halt to the stock market career of Andrew Regan, Hobson's chief executive, who is 30 today. He transformed Hobson last year when he bought FE Barber, the food manufacturing arm of the Co-operative Wholesaling Society, for £111 million. Hobson supplies the Co-op and other retailers with own-label biscuits, wine and ready meals.

Mr Regan will receive £2.7 million from Hillsdown for his 2.2 per cent of Hobson.

Analysts reported some surprise — and mild disappointment — among investing institutions that supported Mr Regan's purchase of Barber in May last year. Hillsdown's cash offer of 31p a share is only 4p above the price at which Hobson issued shares to finance the Barber deal. The price is only about 11 times this year's earnings.

Barber was seen as a great opportunity for Hobson and the ambitious Mr Regan. However, its shares have languished, opening yesterday at 28p.

Hobson quickly to cut its initially large debts by selling unwanted canning and packaging businesses. However, it is understood that Mr Regan found it hard to find another deal that would secure better returns to shareholders than Hillsdown offered. Mr Regan is expected to look for another stock market vehicle.

Hillsdown said the Hobson businesses were a good fit with its existing interests in tea, biscuits and pickles.

Hobson made pre-tax profit of £7.1 million in the first half of this year on sales of £112.8 million. It is forecast to make about £17 million this year.

Hillsdown's offer lets Hobson shareholders receive a 0.4p interim dividend, payable on January 9.

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AMEC

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Investors find rate cut too little and too late

CONFIRMATION of the quarter-point cut in bank base rates to 6.5 per cent received only the merest ripple of applause from the City.

An early mark-up in share prices proved short-lived as investors began to ponder the outlook for the economy generally. Too little, too late was the view of many. In the event, the FT-SE 100 index closed just 7.5 8 higher at 3,662.4, having been more than 18 points higher at one stage. Once again trading proved thin with just 743 million shares changing hands.

Pearson's briefing with brokers revealed details of further heavy rationalisation costs. The shares ended 48p down at 619p after the publisher of the *Financial Times* announced that charges were set to grow from £12 million to £45 million and would leave earnings per share short of City expectations.

Pearson said pre-tax profits in 1995 would be their best, mainly due to a profit of £132 million stemming from the sale of its near 10 per cent stake in BSkyB, although its contribution to profits will drop to £30 million, compared with £57 million last time.

Pearson also unveiled a number of boardroom changes, including the appointment of Greg Dyke, the former head of London Wekend Television, as a main-board director.

A warning about pressure on margins left **Kwik Save**, the discount food retailer, 38p down at 519p. Shareholders were told at the annual meeting that sales in the first 15 weeks had grown 10 per cent, but that growth had since slowed because of increased price competition. This combined with the cost of converting small stores had added to pressure on margins. Brokers began downgrading their forecasts for the current year, with SBC Warburg slashing its number from £130 million to £116 million.

The major supermarket chains were relatively unruffled by the news from Kwik Save. **Tesco** was 2p firmer at 303p, **J Sainsbury** 3p better at 379p, and **Argyll** 3½p harder at 316½p. Only **Asda** suffered, retreating 3p to 105p ahead of first-half figures later today. Brokers are forecasting a sharp rise in pre-tax profits, from £108.7 million to £135 million, as the group continues to reap the benefit of Archie Norman's cost-cutting regime. Like-for-like sales are known to have grown 13 per cent. The focus will fall on current prospects to see how the group is fairing in the vicious food price war during the run-up to Christmas.



GILL ALLEN

Hot seat: John Randall of MFI, where pre-tax profits fell.

Vodafone dropped 6p to 216p after announcing that it was prepared to introduce an extra four recommended tariffs on January 1. Brokers see this as a sign that competition from Orange is starting to make itself felt.

David S. Smith received a warm reception after unveiling a near 50 per cent hike in half-year profits. The shares reponded with a rise of 5p to 254p. There had been some concern about the final outcome following a recent profits warning from **Arjo Wiggins Appleton**, down 1p at 162p, and Rexam.

Meanwhile, **Rexam** was continuing to be tipped as a possible takeover target despite a denial from Alusuisse, the Swiss aluminium producer, that it had been prepared to make an offer worth 430p a share. Rexam has been seen as a target following its second profits warning in four months. The shares finished 19p higher at 356p, still way below their year's high of 517p.

An agreed bid from Hillsdown, the own-label food producer, lifted **Hobson**, the Co-op food supplier, 2½p to 30½p. Hillsdown is offering 31p a share, valuing Hobson at £121 million. **Hillsdown** said the deal would be earnings-enhancing once the business and reorganisation costs had been absorbed. The City liked the deal and marked Hillsdown 8p higher at 160p.

Tomkins rose 7p to 269p after confirming acquisition plans. It has been picked as the preferred bidder for Gates Corporation. No details were revealed, but brokers say Gates is likely to cost Tomkins around $1 billion.

Analysts appear divided about prospects for **MFI** following a first-half performance that saw pre-tax profits tumble 31 per cent to £20.1 million as margins came under pressure from soaring raw material costs, higher costs and increased depreciation charges. The interim dividend was maintained at 1.5p, which underpinned the share price, ½p lighter at 153½p. John Randall, managing director, said turnover during the four weeks since November had matched the corresponding period last year.

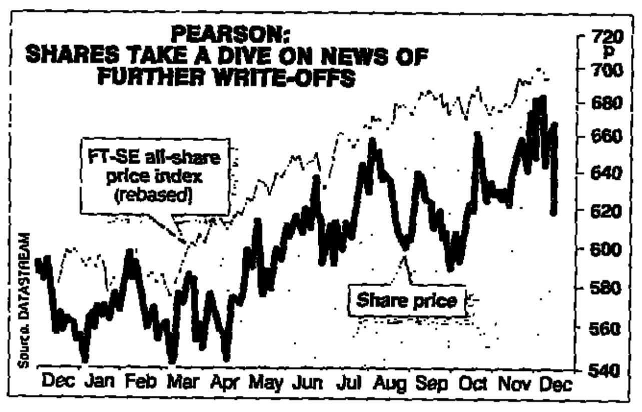
East Midlands Electricity tumbled 36p to 703p after weighing in with interim figures that failed to live up to expectations. Brokers said the figures were distorted by the sale of Ambassador. They were also disappointed with the interim dividend after stripping out a special payment of 120p a share. Half-year figures at the top end of expectations from **Chubb Security** were rewarded with a share price rise of 16p to 316p.

□ **GILT EDGED**: There was a further steepening of the yield curve following the quarter-point cut in base rates. Brokers said sentiment was bolstered by claims that the cut had also been sanctioned by the Governor of the Bank of England and this enabled the market to shrug off some worse than expected retail sales figures on both sides of the Atlantic.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt rose £5/32 to £110 9/16 as turnover grew to its best level of the week with 45,000 contracts completed. The best gains in the cash market were in shorts and mediums with Treasury 8 per cent 2000 adding £5/32 at £104⅞, while at the longer end Treasury 8 per cent 2013 was two ticks firmer at £103 1/32.

□ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street shares shook off early lethargy and charged higher with program buying seen as being tied to Friday's triple witching. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 26.74 points at 5,201.66.

We might expect some good news from Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine group, ½p firmer at 175½p. It will be giving a presentation to brokers at its Derby factory today. Top of the agenda will be the Trent, the most powerful jet engine in the world. Brokers will want to know about the engine's potential.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5201.66 (+26.74)
S&P Composite	620.96 (+2.18)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	19283.48 (-29.29)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9920.88 (-6.91)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	478.03 (-1.01)

Sydney:

AO	2225.6 (+10.5)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2277.80 (-11.97)

Singapore:

Straits	2172.05 (+17.78)

Brussels:

General	83.00.40 (+18.33)

Paris:

CAC-40	1833.76 (-15.18)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	709.90 (-0.50)

London:

FT 30	2649.0 (+6.4)
FT 100	3662.4 (+7.5)
FT-SE Mid 250	3942.3 (+8.8)
FT-SE-A 350	1812.4 (+3.8)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1470.58 (-6.00)
FT A All-Share	1785.58 (+3.40)
FT Non Financials	1879.04 (+2.73)
FT Fixed Interest	114.82 (+0.05)
FT Govt Secs	95.97 (+0.08)
Bargains	27713
SEAQ Volume	746.8m
USM (Datastrm)	191.5 (+0.39)
US$	1.5327 (+0.0012)
German Mark	2.3221 (+0.0037)
Exchange Index	83.0 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1829
£:SDR	1.0339
RPI	149.8 Oct (3.2%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	148.7 Oct (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust H Inc 'C' (100)	98	...
Arlon Props	9	...
BZW Equities (306)	303	+ 2
Benfield & Rea	103	...
CMG (290)	331	- 5
Cash Converters Int	26	...
Com de Part Fin	510	...
Cortworth (150)	151	+ 1½
Cox Insurance	110	...
East Surrey NV	448	...
Fins Tech Tst (100)	102	...
Gardner (L)	130	...
Gearhouse Gp (200)	203	...
Jasmin	85	...
London Town	80	...
Martin Currie Jp	97½	...
Martin Currie Jp Wts	33	...
National Grid (204)	209½	- 1½
Peptide (200)	233	+ 1
Pet City	365	+ 5
Rev Piccadilly	100	...
Trocadero	41	+ 1
Vero Group	270	...
Wilmington	62	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Allied Leisure n/p (34)	7	...
Roxspur n/p (3)	½	...
TBI n/p (50)	3	...
The TV Crp n/p (97)	6	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

REXAM	356p (+19p)
Chubb Sec	316p (+16p)
Chemring	390p (+12p)
Allied Dom	516p (+15p)
Laporte	654p (+18p)
Celltech	543p (+12p)
BAT	571p (+11p)

FALLS:

Kwik Save	519p (-39p)
First Tech	440p (-18p)
GKN	787p (-10p)
Photobition	314p (-8p)
Kelsey Ind	575p (-15p)
Securicor 'A'	885p (-25p)
Forth Ports	583p (-20p)
ERF	258p (-16p)

Closing Prices Page 34

TEMPUS

Food on the plate

IT is easy to understand why investors might have felt a bit nervous last April when Hillsdown cashed a £300 million cheque for the sale of its interest in Maple Leaf Food. In the past Hillsdown has been a bit free with shareholders' funds but the agreed bid for Hobson, announced yesterday, looks a good one.

Hillsdown did not always have a glad eye for Hobson. The shell company turned itself into a food manufacturer less than two years ago with the purchase of the food processing arm of the Co-op. Since then, Hobson has been competing hard for own-label contracts from the superstores, effectively stealing food from the mouth of big brother Hillsdown. Yesterday's deal not only adds a major customer — the Co-op which boasts a supply agreement lasting until 1999 — but it eliminates a competitor at a time when the food producers are under enormous margin pressure.

Given the attractions for Hillsdown, some investors might wonder whether Hobson's management have not sold out too cheaply. Market forecasts of profits of £18 million for Hobson suggest that Hillsdown is buying the company on multiple of 11.5 times earnings, hardly demanding. Such an analysis ignores the dynamics of the food manufacturing sector and the potential for an independent Hobson. Underlying growth is weak and margins are still under pressure. Without a deal the company would be hard pressed to continue growing at such a rate. However, Hobson's current share rating precludes using paper to finance a deal and the balance sheet is too small to allow it to borrow. Shareholders are better off taking the cash.

David S Smith

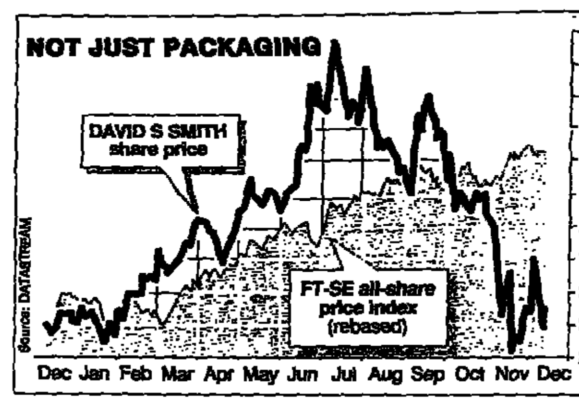
DIRECTORS have little influence over the share prices of the companies they run, but this year, the bosses of David S Smith, the paper and packaging group, must have found the stock price gyrations particularly exasperating.

Bid rumours in the summer, which the company vigorously denied, sent the price soaring to nearly 340p. Since then, a series of profit warnings from rivals caused the price to collapse.

Two good sets of results from Smith did little to change market perception. Although Peter Williams, the chairman, expressed a degree of caution about the next six months, his message was hardly pessimistic.

Mr Williams would like the City to believe that he has built a company which, when viewed as a whole, is not cyclical. He has a point: dividend growth stretches back for ten unbroken years, and Spicer, its office supplies business, continues to sparkle.

The cautious outlook from Smith reflects a downward trend in the paper cycle which will inevitably affect the company. Smith's real strength is its ability to ride the cycle, and even on lower forecasts of about £120 million profits next year, the company will still be showing healthy growth over last year. The shares have fallen a long way in the past few months and stand at a discount of more than 30 per cent to the market. It looks a good time to buy.



MFI

YESTERDAY'S interest rate cut met with little more than a raised eyebrow at MFI. A quarter point off the cost of credit is not enough to entice people to buy new homes and install new kitchens.

Fortunately, MFI's management is not relying on a spending revival, but is looking for other ways of stimulating sales. Hence, the new Homeworks stores, which are more flexible in format than their more traditional MFI counterparts. Since August 27 outlets have been converted into Homeworks and these have outperformed the rest by 10 per cent.

The proof of this pudding will be in the critical post-Christmas period. If successful, MFI will extend the concept to the entire 184-strong chain. That would free up one million square feet of space, which could be sub-let to provide further income. Profits and margins have been hit hard by a 30 per cent leap in raw material costs in the past year, which MFI has been unable to pass on to consumers. However, there are signs of a softening of prices.

MFI shares are trading at a 70 per cent premium to the market. There is little doubt that the company can grow; the question is how long it will take. Next year should produce a much better result, but without help from the economy not enough to remove today's premium.

Tomkins

IF further evidence were needed that the City is casting a fonder eye on Tomkins, it was available yesterday on news that a deal was imminent for the purchase of Gates Corporation. Tomkins shares were up with only scraps of information on the privately owned US company and vague indications that the deal might be worth $1 billion. Assuming a decent 10 per cent margin and with turnover of $1.4 billion, Tomkins would have a reasonable bargain at a price of $1 billion, but the chances are it may have had to agree to pay more.

There are two reasons for the recent rise in the Tomkins price. First, a gradual rerating as the market begins to see that the company has made a success of the £1 billion RHM acquisition while continuing to pay out increased dividends and generate masses of cash. Second and no less important is relief that Tomkins has found a big acquisition.

The problem with conglomerates is that they need ever larger deals to stimulate better than average earnings growth. In August, the company took powers to buy in shares, causing some to question whether Tomkins had run out of ideas, but the 40 factories of Gates Corporation look a classic candidate for rationalisation.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	900-870	Mar	1017-1015
Mar	931-930	May	1029-1026
May	950-949	Jul	unq
Jul	971-970	Sep	
Sep	990-989		
Dec	1003-1001	Volume: 8672	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2265-2240	Sep	1696-1690
Mar	1870-1868	Nov	1670-1660
May	1775-1770	Jan	1670-1630
Jul	1730-1725	Volume: 5801	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	305.5-05.0
Spot: 383.0		Dec	399.9-98.5
Mar	351.8-51.5	Mar	297.0-95.6
May	342.3-41.6	May	296.9-95.5
Aug	333.3-33.0	Volume: 1196	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 12

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	108.92	116.89	119.09
(+/-)	+5.39	-2.18	-2.41
Eng/Wales:	109.32	117.90	116.45
(+/-)	+5.34	-1.83	-3.07
(%)	+5.0	-1.0	-21.0
Scotland:	103.90	112.60	125.93
(+/-)	+6.13	-3.54	-1.61
(%)	+9.0	-4.0	-6.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.65	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Jan)	17.75	+0.30
Brent 15 day (Feb)	17.40	+0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	18.85	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	18.55	+0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	B:	O:
Premium Gas .15	170 (+1)	172 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	172 (+1)	175 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Jan	171 (n/c)	173 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Feb	167 (-3)	169 (-3)
3.5 Fuel Oil	102 (-1)	105 (-1)
Naphtha	160 (+1)	162 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jan	167.00-67.25	Apr	157.00-57.25
Feb	163.50-63.75	May	155.00-55.75
Mar	160.25-60.50	Vol: 14857	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	17.76-17.77	Apr	16.88-16.90
Feb	17.40-17.42	May	16.74 SLR
Mar	17.12-17.13	Vol: 37246	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	123.50	Jan	114.15
Mar	125.50	Mar	116.30
May	127.50	May	118.00
Jul	129.50	Sep	109.50
Sep	111.90	Nov	111.05
Volume: 788		Volume: 90	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	270.0
Apr	260.0	258.3
May	unq	292.5
		Volume: 25

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jan 114.25-114.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 95	1665	1660	1655
Jan 96	1690	1650	1655
Feb 96	1665	1630	1630
Apr 96	1650	1615	1620
Vol: 355 lots		Open Interest: 3993	

Index 1631 +15

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2968.0-2970.0	2693.0-2694.0	1921800
Lead ($/tonne)	735.00-735.50	730.00-731.00	304480
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1036.5-1037.0	1062.0-1062.5	499025
Tin ($/tonne)	6355.0-6365.0	6358.0-6360.0	28395
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1647.0-1647.5	1678.0-1678.5	1130650
Nickel ($/tonne)	8125.0-8130.0	8250.0-8255.0	60726

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	460	43	56½	61½	1	5½	10½
(*499)	500	14	29½	36	10½	19	26
Argyll	300	16	29	33	3	9	14½
(*313)	330	4½	13½	18	19	24	30½
ASDA	100	10	14	17½	2	5	6
(*107½)	110	4½	8½	12½	6½	9½	10½
Boots	550	41	55	63½	2	7	14½
(*585½)	600	9½	24	33½	21	27½	36
Br Airways	460	22	36	44½	5½	12½	19½
(*472½)	500	4	16	24	28	33½	40
BP	500	38½	47	54	1½	7	11½
(*533½)	550	6½	17½	25½	19½	28½	33½
Br Steel	140	19	23½	26	0½	2	5
(*158)	160	4½	10½	13½	6	9	14
C & W	420	32	46	54	5½	11½	18
(*444½)	460	10	24½	33½	22½	29½	36
CU	600	41½	54½	62½	5	19½	24
(*632½)	650	11½	26½	36	25½	45½	49½
ICI	700	55½	67	74½	2½	15½	20½
(*748)	750	20	35	45½	17½	37½	43
Kingfishr	500	21	36½	41½	8½	22	30
(*509½)	550	3	14½	20	41½	52½	59
Land Sec	600	20	36	43	6	12½	23½
(*611)	650	1½	12	18	39	41½	53½
M & S	420	27½	39	44½	2	6	11½
(*443)	460	5	16	22	19½	24	30
Nat West	650	29	39½	54	9	28½	37½
(*664½)	700	7½	18	32	38	59½	66½
Sainsbury	360	20	30½	35½	3	9	15
(*374½)	390	4½	14½	19½	17½	22½	30
Shell	800	45½	60	66	2	12	16
(*839)	850	11½	27	35½	17	33½	38½
Smkl Bch	700	21½	39½	54	14½	26½	33
(*703)	750	4½	18	32	48½	56½	62
Storehse	330	30	29	36½	5	9½	14
(*342½)	360	5	13½	21	20½	24½	29
Trafalgar	25	4½	7½	8	1½	4	5
(*27)	30	2½	5½	6	4½	7	8
Unilever	1300	41½	67½	82	11	28½	37½
(*1326½)	1350	15	37½	55	34	53½	62
Zeneca	1250	59	90½	114	19½	46½	61
(*1281)	1300	31	63	86½	41½	71	85

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met.	420	35	44	52½	9	12½	19
(*450)	460	12½	23	32	29	32½	38
Ladbroke	140	22	24	29	5½	9½	11½
(*155)	160	11½	15½	19½	13½	19	21½
Utd Bisc	240	21½	26	29½	5½	10½	13
(*253½)	260	10½	15½	19½	13½	21	23½

December 12, 1995 Tot: 27416 Calls: 16047 Puts: 11369 FT-SE Calls: 4857 Puts: 3454

*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	460	24	36½	44	4	9½	15
(*477½)	500	4	14½	23	24½	29	34
Thames W	550	25	46	53½	7	14½	29
(*567½)	600	7	23	29½	35	41	56

Series		Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	550	30½	37	46	13½	27	35
(*559½)	600	10½	17½	25½	44½	58	65
BTR	300	25½	28	32½	3½	7½	9½
(*319)	330	8½	11	17	16½	23	25
Br Aero	750	53	67	86½	12½	28½	37½
(*787½)	800	30½	43½	60½	33	52½	61
Br Telcm	330	18½	25	32	7½	10½	18
(*343)	360	5	11½	18	27	28½	35
Cadbury	500	61½	64½	73½	6	14½	19
(*547½)	550	29½	34½	45	22	34½	39½
Guinness	460	29½	32½	38½	9	19	23
(*469)	500	7	14½	20	32½	43	46
GEC	300	20½	27	32	4½	7	12
(*316)	330	5½	11	16	20	22	27
Hanson	180	13	14½	18	3½	5½	7½
(*189½)	191	6½	—	—	9½	—	—
LASMO	160	15	19	24	3½	6½	8½
(*169½)	180	5½	9½	14	13	16	18½
Lucas	160	21	24½	28	1½	3½	5½
(*177)	180	8	12½	16½	8½	11½	13½
Pilkingtn	191	13	18½	22½	6	7	11½
(*194½)	210	5	9½	13½	17	18	21½
Prudential	420	27	32½	40½	13	22	26½
(*428½)	460	10	15½	23	36	46	49½
Redland	360	23	32	36	9	18	30½
(*370)	390	9½	17	22	25½	35	37½
R-Royce	160	19	21½	25½	2	5½	7
(*175)	180	6½	10	14½	10	15	16½
Tesco	300	14½	19	23½	10	15	18
(*301)	330	4	7	11½	30½	34	36½
Vodafone	220	14½	21½	26	9	12	14½
(*223½)	240	6	12½	17	19½	23	25
Williams	300	28	33	35	1½	6½	8
(*321½)	330	9	14½	17½	12½	20	22

FT-SE INDEX (*3654½)

	3550	3600	3650	3700	3750	3800
Calls						
Dec	104½	55	16½	1½	1	1
Jan	128½	92	60½	35½	18½	9
Feb	153	117	87	62	41½	27
Mar	172½	139½	108	92½	56½	41½
Jun	—	183½	—	130½	—	86
Puts						
Dec	1½	3	15½	58	108	158
Jan	21½	34½	53½	80½	117	163
Feb	34	48½	69	95½	128	167
Mar	50	68	88½	113	141½	177
Jun	—	111½	—	158	—	215½

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	600	30	50½	59	1½	22	30½
(*627½)	650	3	24	34½	24½	49	56½
Amstrad	220	17½	26	32½	0½	5½	9
(*237)	240	2½	14	21½	6	14	17
Barclays	750	25½	50½	60½	3	24½	34
(*772)	800	2	24	36½	29	51½	61
Blue Circ	300	25½	34½	39	0	5	11½
(*325)	330	2½	16	21½	5½	16½	25½
Br Gas	220	9½	19	23	0½	7	11½
(*227½)	240	1	9½	13½	12½	17½	23
Dixons	390	18½	34	44	1	13	17
(*406½)	420	2½	19	28½	14½	26½	31½
Forte	330	10	21½	26	2	11	16
(*337½)	360	0½	7	8½	22½	26½	32
Tarmac	90	5½	10½	12½	0½	4	7
(*94½)	100	1	5½	7½	6	9	12½
Hillsdwn	140	12½	16½	17½	0	2½	6½
(*152)	160	1	4½	6½	8	11½	18
Lonrho	160	15½	19	24	0	3½	5
(*175)	180	1½	7½	13½	6	13	14
Sears	100	1½	6½	8	1½	4½	6½
(*100)	110	0	2½	4	10	11	13
Thrn Emi	1500	104	133½	173	0	18½	28½
(*1601½)	1600	19	72½	111½	15½	56	66
Tomkins	260	4½	13½	20	3	11½	14½
(*261)	280	0	5½	11½	19	24	26½
TSB	390	19½	27½	31½	0½	18½	19½
(*408½)	420	1½	8½	14	12½	34	37

Series		Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo Well	850	56	72½	86½	5½	21	30
(*895)	900	23	42½	59	21½	45½	52½
HSBC	1000	36½	65	80	21	52	62
(*1009)	1050	14½	42	58	49½	80½	90
Reuter	600	19	36	50½	16½	30½	39½
(*600½)	650	4	16	29	51½	60½	66

Series		Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Royal Ins	360	24	35	42	4	14½	22½
(*376½)	390	9	20	28	18	25	40

Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	260	4½	5½	5½	0½	0½	0½
(*264)	280	0	0	0	16	16	16

Series		Feb	May		Feb	May	
Eastern Gp	950	36	25½	—	0½	1	—
(*974)	1000	0½	0½	—	34	34½	—

Series		Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	420	29	41	52	0	5	14
(*448)	460	2	18	29½	13	21	32½
Scot Pwr	360	8	16½	25½	2½	14	16
(*364½)	390	0	6	12½	25½	33	34½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 95	3653.0	3692.0	3649.0	3660.5	18599
Previous open interest: 82285	Mar 96	3677.0	3705.0	3676.5	3685.0	12292
FT-SE 250	Dec 95	3935.0	3944.0	3935.0	3935.0	398
Previous open interest: 3658	Mar 96	3970.0	3970.0	3969.5	3970.0	390
Three Month Sterling	Dec 95	93.50	93.54	93.48	93.48	16465
Previous open interest: 404189	Mar 96	93.79	93.86	93.77	93.91	27195
	Jun 96	93.91	94.00	93.88	93.95	18137
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 95				94.20	0
Previous open interest: 110	Mar 96				94.55	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 95	96.08	96.11	96.07	96.10	13792
Previous open interest: 988510	Mar 96	96.36	96.40	96.35	96.39	21581
Long Gilt	Dec 95	110-19	111-09	110-19	111-02	4429
Previous open interest: 152473	Mar 96	110-10	110-28	110-01	110-18	46448
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 96	121.67	121.71	121.62	121.64	2080
	Jun 96				120.19	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 96	96.70	98.86	98.58	98.80	77725
Previous open interest: 203845	Jun 96	97.98	98.10	97.98	98.17	8
Three month ECU	Dec 95	94.57	94.62	94.56	94.58	430
Previous open interest: 21201	Mar 96	94.76	94.82	94.78	94.80	813
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 95	97.92	97.95	97.91	97.94	2232
Previous open interest: 53720	Mar 96	98.13	98.18	98.12	98.17	4695
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 96	106.25	106.33	106.00	106.17	21874
Previous open interest: 47404	Jun 96	105.90	105.90	105.90	105.77	33

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6½ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 6 Week fixed: 6½

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¹¹⁄₃₂ ; 3 mth 6⅜ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅛ ; 3 mth: 6⅛ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6¼-6¹¹⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6⅛	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	6½-6⅛	6½-6⅛	6¹⁵⁄₃₂-6¹¹⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛
Interbank:	6½-6⅛	6½-6⅛	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6¹¹⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛
Overnight: open 6¼, close 6 .					
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	6⅛	6¼
Sterling CDs:	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6¹¹⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6¹¹⁄₃₂	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.83	n/a	5.68	5.55	5.44
Building Society CDs:	6½-6⅛	6½-6⅛	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6¹¹⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⅝	5¹¹⁄₁₆-¹¹⁄₁₆	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⅝	5½-5⅜	5¼-4½
Deutschemark:	4⅛-3⅞	4⅛-4	4-3⅞	3⅞-3¾	4⅛-3½
French Franc:	5⅛-5⅝	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5½	5¹¹⁄₁₆-¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5⅛-4¾
Swiss Franc:	2⅛-2	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1⅞	2⅛-1½
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $388.10-388.40 Close: $387.60-388.10 High: $388.49-388.95 Low: $387.00-387.50 AM: $388.10 PM: $387.60

Krugerrand: $387.00-389.00 (£252.00-254.00)

Platinum: $412.75 (£269.60) Silver: $5.16 (£3.365) Palladium: $133.40 (£87.15)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 13	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4834-2.4909	2.4876-2.4909	⅛-¼pr	1⅛-1¼pr
Brussels	45.60-45.75	45.65-45.75	0.12-0.09pr	0.31-0.26pr
Copenhagen	8.5930-8.6280	8.6060-8.6280	1⅛-¼pr	3⅛-2¼pr
Dublin	0.9667-0.9703	0.9668-0.9694	11-8pr	24-19pr
Frankfurt	2.2191-2.2244	2.2214-2.2244	⅛-½pr	1⅛-1½pr
Lisbon	233.04-233.85	233.23-233.85	0.38-0.65ds	1.28-1.72ds
Madrid	188.75-189.28	189.00-189.28	0.44-0.53ds	1.36-1.53ds
Milan	2448.8-2454.8	2449.3-2453.3	0.06-0.09ds	0.23-0.26ds
Montreal	2.1041-2.1104	2.1074-2.1104	0.14-0.06pr	0.19-0.08pr
New York	1.5294-1.5330	1.5320-1.5330	0.10-0.08pr	0.26-0.23pr
Oslo	9.7820-9.8320	9.8170-9.8320	⅛-½pr	2⅛-1⅛pr
Paris	7.6720-7.7070	7.6930-7.7070	⅛-½pr	1⅛-½pr
Stockholm	10.267-10.325	10.267-10.290	⅛-½ds	⅛-½ds
Tokyo	155.44-156.09	155.74-156.00	⅛-½pr	2⅛-2¼pr
Vienna	15.608-15.655	15.629-15.655	⅛-½pr	1-½pr
Zurich	1.8004-1.8059	1.8031-1.8059	⅛-½pr	2-1⅛pr

Source: Extel

Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3424-1.3433
Austria	10.20-10.21
Belgium (Com)	29.80-29.84
Canada	1.3750-1.3755
Denmark	5.6240-5.6270
France	5.0190-5.0220
Germany	1.4505-1.4515
Hong Kong	7.7343-7.7353
Ireland	1.5915-1.5838
Italy	1598.00-1599.00
Japan	101.69-101.74
Malaysia	2.5445-2.5455
Netherlands	1.6239-1.6244
Norway	6.4028-6.4103
Portugal	152.26-152.36
Singapore	1.4163-1.4173
Spain	123.30-123.35
Sweden	6.7090-6.7190
Switzerland	1.1763-1.1773

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5223-1.5349
Australia dollar	2.0564-2.0591
Bahrain dinar	0.5700-0.5820
Brazil real*	1.4867-1.4909
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.7040-0.7140
Finland markka	6.5975-6.7135
Greece drachma	363.75-370.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.8474-11.8567
India rupee	52.88-53.84
Indonesia rupiah	3454.00-3522.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4500-0.4600
Malaysia ringgit	3.8977-3.9017
New Zealand dollar	2.3646-2.3698
Pakistan rupee	52.35 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5000-5.6240
Singapore dollar	2.1698-2.1730
S Africa rand (com)	5.5590-5.6610
U A E dirham	5.5500-5.6740

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	1,200	Lloyds Bk	2,800
ASDA Gp	9,300	Lon Elect	322
Abbey Ntl	2,300	Marks Spr	3,800
Allied Dom	5,900	Mid Elec	709
Argyll Gp	1,500	NatWst Bk	2,500
Arjo Wggns	2,300	Nat Grid	18,000
AB Foods	317	Nat Power	1,200
BAA	3,100	NW Water	745
BAT Inds	11,000	P & O	2,300
BOC	749	Pearson	8,000
BP	6,300	PowerGen	895
BSkyB	2,000	Prudential	3,600
BTR	7,300	REXAM	6,900
BT	10,000	RMC	445
Bk of Scot	1,300	RTZ	2,600
Barclays	4,300	Rank Org	2,000
Bass	3,600	Reckitt Col	1,300
Blue Circle	3,800	Redland	1,100
Boots	1,600	Reed Intl	2,200
BAe	1,400	Rentokil	748
BA	2,400	Reuters	1,900
Brit Gas	7,400	Rolls Royce	2,200
Brit Steel	17,000	Royal Ins	1,500
Burmah Cstl	378	Ryl Bk Scot	1,300
Cable Wire	5,100	Sainsbury	3,100
Cadbury	1,900	Schroders	203
Carlton Cms	1,400	Scot & New	1,700
Cm Union	1,600	Scot Power	1,300
Cookson	3,800	Sears	5,400
Courtaulds	1,100	Svrn Trent	1,800
De La Rue	276	Shell Trans	3,300
Enterpr Oil	1,300	Siebe	962
Forte	6,200	SmKl Bch	3,300
GKN	1,300	Smith Nph	3,100
GRE	3,600	Sthern Elec	605
GUS	1,900	Std Chartd	3,600
Gen Acc	1,000	Sun Allnce	883
Gen Elec	8,800	TI Gp	670
Glaxo Well	6,000	TSB	2,700
Granada	944	Tate & Lyle	1,300
Grand Met	4,200	Tesco	3,700
Guinness	3,600	Thames W	350
HSBC	3,500	Thrn EMI	1,200
Hanson	14,000	Tomkins	22,000
ICI	2,500	Unilever	1,500
Kingfisher	7,100	Vodafone	13,000
LASMO	4,100	Whitbread	993
Ladbroke	9,800	Wlms Hld	2,000
Land Secs	1,600	Wolseley	786
Legal & Gn	2,800	Zeneca	2,900

WALL STREET

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 12 close
AMP Inc	40	40
AMR Corp	78	76¾
AT & T	67¼	66¾
Abbott Labs	42¾	41½
Advanced Micro	18¾	18¾
Aetna Life	70¾	70¾
Ahmanson (HF)	26¾	26¾
Air Prod & Chem	55¾	55¾
AirTouch Comm	27¾	27¾
Alberto-Culver B	36	35½
Albertson's	33¾	33¾
Alcan Aluminum	32	31¾
Alco Standard	44¾	44¼
Allied Signal	48¾	47¾
Alum Co of Am	54¾	54¾
Amax Gold Inc	7¼	7¼
Amerada Hess	50¾	50¾
Amer Brands	45¼	45
Amer El Power	38¾	38¾
Amer Express	43¼	43¾
Amer Genl Corp	33	33¾
Amer Home Pr	97¾	95¾
Amer Intl	91¾	91¾
Amer Stores	26	26¾
Amer Standard	31¾	31¾
Ameritech	58¾	58¾
Amoco	71¾	71¾
Anheuser-Busch	66¾	66¾
Apple Computer	37¾	38
Archer Daniels	17¼	17¾
Armco	5¾	5¾
Armstrng Wrld	63¾	63
Asarco	33¾	34¼
Ashland Oil	35¾	36
Atl Richfield	113¾	113¾
Auto Data Pro	75¾	77¾
Avery Dennison	47¾	47¾
Avon Products	77¾	76¾
Baker Hughes	23¾	23¾
Baltim Gas & El	27¾	27¾
Banc One	38¼	38¾
BankAmerica	67¾	67¾
Bank of NY	46¾	45¾
Bankers Tr NY	67¾	67¾
Barnett Banks	60	60
Bausch & Lomb	39¾	37¾
Baxter Intl	41¾	41¾
Becton Dicknsn	74¾	75¾
Bell Atlantic	65¾	65¾
Bell Industries	22¾	22
BellSouth	41¾	41¾
Black & Decker	35¾	35¾
Block (H&R)	43¾	43¾
Boeing	75¾	74¾
Boise Cascade	33¾	32¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	85¾	85¾
Browning Ferris	31¾	30¾
Brunswick	21¾	22
Burlington Nthn	78¾	77¾
CNA Financial	116¾	116
CPC Intl	72	71¾
CSX	88¾	88¾
Campbell Soup	59¾	59¾
Can Pacific	17¾	18
Cpd Cities ABC	124¾	125
Carolina Pwr	33¾	33¾
Caterpillar	61	61¾
Central & SW	27¾	27¾
Champion Intl	41¾	40¾
Chase Manhat	61¾	61¾
Chemical Bk	60	59¾
Chevron Corp	52¾	52¾
Chrysler	53¾	53¾
Chubb Corp	98¾	98¾
Cigna Corp	106¾	108
Citicorp	66¾	65¾
Clorox	77¾	77
Coastal Corp	35¾	35¾
Coca Cola	80	80¾
Colgate-Palmolive	74¾	74¾
Columbia Gas	43¾	43¾
ColumbiaHCA	51¾	51¾
Compaq Comp	47¾	48¾
Comp Ass Int	63¾	63¾
Conagra	40¾	40¾
Conrail	71¾	70¾
Cons Edison	29¾	29¾
Cons Nat Gas	44¾	44¾
Cooper Inds	36¾	36¾
Corestates	38¾	38¾
Corning Inc	31¾	31¾
Crown Cork	41¾	41¾
Dana Corp	30¾	29¾
Dayton Hudson	71¾	72¾
Deere	33¾	33¾
Delta Air Lines	76¾	75¾
Deluxe Corp	27¾	27¾
Detroit Edison	33¾	34¾
Digital Equip	63¾	64¾
Dillard Dept St	29¾	28¾
Disney (Walt)	61¾	61¾
Dominion Res	40¾	40¾
Donelley (RR)	36¾	37¾
Dover Corp	36¾	36¾
Dow Chemical	70¾	70
Dow Jones	39¾	39¾
Dresser	23¾	24
Duke Power	46¾	46¾
Dun & Bradstreet	64¾	63¾
Du Pont	69¾	68¾

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 12 close
Eastman Kodak	67¾	68
Eaton Corp	55¾	53¾
Emerson Elec	79¾	79¾
Engelhard Corp	22¾	22¾
Enron Corp	38¾	38¾
Entergy	27	27¾
Ethyl Corp	12¾	12¾
Exxon	84¾	84¾
FMC Corp	72¾	73¾
FPL Group	44¾	44¾
Federal Express	81¾	80¾
Fed Nat Mtge	114¾	114¾
First Interstate	141	139
First Union Rlty	7¾	7¾
Fleet Finl Grp	40¾	40¾
Fluor Corp	66¾	65¾
Ford Motor	28¾	28¾
GTE Corp	43¾	43¾
Gannett	62¾	64
Gap Inc Del	47¾	46¾
Gen Dynamics	60¾	60¾
Gen Electric	71¾	72
Gen Mills	56	54¾
Gen Motors	49¾	49¾
Gen Reinsurance	153¾	152¾
Gen Signal	32¾	32
Genuine Parts	41¾	42
Georgia Pac	68¾	68
Gillette	53¾	53¾
Glaxo Welle ADR	27¾	27¾
Goodrich (BF)	66¾	65¾
Goodyear Tire	44¾	44¾
Grace (W&R)	60¾	61
Gt Atl Pac Tea	22¾	22¾
Great Wstn Fin	25¾	25¾
Halliburton	47¾	47¾
Harcourt General	40¾	41¾
Heinz (HJ)	34	33¾
Hercules	56¾	57¾
Hershey Foods	64¾	64¾
Hewlett Packard	82¾	83
Hilton Hotels	63¾	64¾
Home Depot	44¾	45¾
Homestake Mng	16¾	16¾
Honeywell	45¾	45¾
Household Intl	60	59¾
Houston Inds	23¾	23¾
Humana	26¾	27¾
ITT Corp	125	125¾
Illinois Tool	58¾	58¾
Illinova	28¾	28¾
INCO	35¾	35¾
Ingersoll Rand	37¾	39¾
Inland Steel	25¾	25¾
Intel Corp	62¾	62¾
IBM	94¾	95¾
Intl Flav & Fr	54¾	54¾
Intl Paper	35¾	35¾
James River Va	30¾	29¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	90¾	90¾
Kellogg	78¾	78¾
Kerr-McGee	59¾	60¾
Kimberly-Clark	81¾	78¾
Kmart	7¾	7¾
Knight-Ridder	64¾	65
Lilly (Eli)	102¾	101¾
Limited Inc	17¾	17¾
Lincoln Nat	50¾	50
Litton	43¾	43¾
Liz Claiborne	28¾	28¾
Lockheed Martin	74	74¾
Louisiana Pac	24¾	24¾
MCI Comm	25¾	26¾
Marriott Int	38	38¾
Marsh & McLen	89¾	89¾
Masco Corp	29¾	29
May Dept St	42¾	42¾
Maytag Corp	21¾	21
McDonalds	46¾	46¾
McDonnell D	88¾	88¾
McGraw Hill	85¾	85¾
Mead Corp	52¾	52¾
Medtronic	56¾	55¾
Mellon Bk	53¾	54¾
Melville Corp	31¾	32
Merck Inc	64¾	63¾
Merrill Lynch	54¾	54¾
Microsoft	91	91¾
Minnesota Mine	68¾	69
Mobil Corp	115¾	114¾
Monsanto	121¾	120
Morgan (JP)	80¾	80¾
Motorola Inc	60¾	61¾
Natl Semi	22¾	22¾
Natl Service Ind	33	33
Navistar Int	10¾	10¾
NY Times A	29¾	29¾
Newmont Mng	43¾	43¾
Niag Mohawk	9¾	9¾
Nike B	62¾	60¾
NL Industries	12¾	12¾
Noram Energy	8¾	8¾
Nordstrom	40¾	40¾
Norfolk Sthrn	81¾	80¾
Nthn State Pwr	47¾	47¾
Norwest Corp	33¾	33¾
Nynex Corp	48¾	48¾
Occidental Pet	21¾	21¾
Ohio Edison	22¾	22¾
Oracle	44¾	44¾

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 12 close
Oryx Energy Co	13¾	13¾
Owens Corning	45¾	45¾
PPG Industries	46¾	46
PNC Bank	29¾	29¾
PP&L Res	24¾	24¾
Paccar Inc	50	48
Pacificorp	20¾	20¾
Pac Enterprises	27¾	27¾
Pac Gas & Elec	28	28¾
Pac Telesis	33¾	33
Pall Corp	27¾	27¾
Panhandle East	28¾	28
Parker Hannifin	36¾	36¾
Peco Energy	29¾	29¾
Penney (JC)	47¾	47¾
Pennzoil	41¾	40¾
Pepsico	58	57¾
Pfizer	64¾	65¾
Pharm & Upjhn	38¾	38¾
Phelps Dodge	63¾	63¾
Philip Morris	90¾	90¾
Phillips Pet	33¾	33¾
Pitney Bowes	47¾	48¾
Polaroid	46¾	47¾
PriceCostco	16¹¹⁄₁₆	17
Procter & Gmbl	85¾	86
Providian	42¾	42¾
Pub Serv E & G	29¾	29¾
Quaker Oats	36¾	37¾
Ralston Purina	65¾	66¾
Raychem Corp	58¾	57¾
Raytheon	45¾	45¾
Reebok Intl	24¾	25¾
Reynolds Metals	56¾	56¾
Rockwell Intl	52	51¾
Rohm & Haas	62	62
Royal Dutch	135¾	134¾
Rubbermaid	26¾	26¾
SBC Comms	56¾	56
Safeco Corp	36¾	36¾
St Paul's Cos	57¾	57¾
Salomon Inc	35¾	35¾
Sara Lee Corp	32¾	33¾
Scecorp	16¾	16¾
Schering Plough	57¾	58¾
Schlumberger	69¾	69¾
Scott Paper	61¾	61¾
Seagram	36¾	36¾
Sears Roebuck	39¾	39
Shell Trans	78¾	78¾
Sherwin Wlms	39	38¾
Skyline Corp	18¾	18¾
Snap-On-Tools	43¾	43¾
Southern Co	24¾	23¾
Sprint Corp	40¾	40¾
Stanley Works	52¾	52¾
Sun Company	27¾	27¾
Sun Microsys	48¾	48¾
Suntrust	67¾	67¾
Supervalu	32¾	32¾
Sysco Corp	31¾	31¾
TRW Inc	75¾	76
TCC Inds	2¾	2¾
Tandem Comp	11¾	11¾
Tandy Corp	42¾	44¾
Teledyne	24¾	24¾
Temple Inland	44¾	44¾
Tenneco	48¾	48¾
Texaco	79	79¾
Texas Inst	55¾	54¾
Texas Utilities	38¾	38¾
Textron	72¾	75¾
Time Warner	39¾	40¾
Times-Mirror A	33¾	33¾
Timken	39	38¾
Torchmark	44¾	44¾
Toys R Us	23¾	23¾
Transamerica	76¾	76¾
Travelers	61¾	60¾
Tribune	62¾	62¾
Tyco Labs	33¾	33¾
UST Inc	34	34¾
UAL	207¾	209¾
US Inds	17¾	16¾
USX Marathon	19¾	19¾
Unicom	31¾	31¾
Unilever NV	139¾	140¾
Union Camp	47¾	47¾
Union Carbide	38	37¾
Union Pacific	66¾	66
Unisys Corp	5¾	5¾
USAIR Group	12¾	12¾
USF&G Corp	17¾	17¾
US Life	31¾	31¾
United Tech	95¾	94¾
Unocal Corp	28¾	29
VF Corp	51¾	51¾
WMX Tech	30¾	30¾
Wal-Mart Stores	23¾	23¾
Warner-Lambert	95	95¾
Wells Fargo	221	219¾
Westinghouse El	16	16¾
Weyerhaeuser	41¾	42¾
Whirlpool	54¾	54¾
Whitman	22¾	22¾
Winn Dixie	35¾	36¾
Woolworth	14¾	14¾
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	50¾	50¾
Xerox	137	138¾
Yellow Corp	11¹¹⁄₁₆	12

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من الأصل

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

The drain in Spain

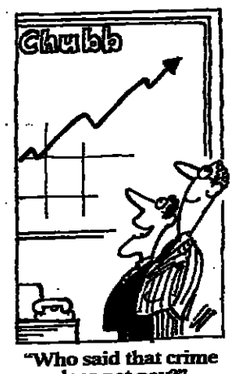
COOPERS & LYBRAND is to likely to set a legal precedent as it tries to settle a score over a little local difficulty in Madrid. Coopers' partners are accusing rival Ernst & Young of poaching the entire consulting division in Madrid — 91 employees who bring in £14 million a year. A mole within Coopers' Madrid office claims the staff were already unhappy, but on November 15, the six partners, all apparently Spanish, told Angel Luis Linares, the senior partner, that they were leaving immediately to join Ernst & Young to set up a £5 million division early next year to be called Ernst & Young Consulting. Coopers is suing under the 1991 Law of Disloyal Competition. It will be the first time a court has to decide such a battle between two consultancies. The employees are also being sued for breach of their contracts, which apparently stipulated that staff had to give three months' notice, while the Coopers partners cannot work for a rival firm for at least two years.

Matter of style

CRUCIAL ground may already have been lost in the hostile £3.3 billion Granada bid for Forte, as both sides fight for votes from fund manager shareholders. One big fund manager has virtually made up his mind already. He says that while Gerry Robinson, Granada's genial chief executive, has been doing the all-important round of visits to fund managers, the Forte camp has rather grandiosely issued summonses for the same key figures to visit Sir Rocco.

Nuclear family

THE magazine is called *Alpha* and on the glossy cover is a delightful picture of a kingfisher returning to its perch to feed its family after a skilful swoop on its prey — nature in action. The cover headline is Plant Life, and nature lovers will be eager to seek out page four to read all about The Secret Life of Plants. Who would guess, then, that the entity behind this publication is none other than dear old BNFL, still known to you and I as British Nuclear Fuels. The spin doctors are all aglow about Sellafield.



"Who said that crime does not pay?"

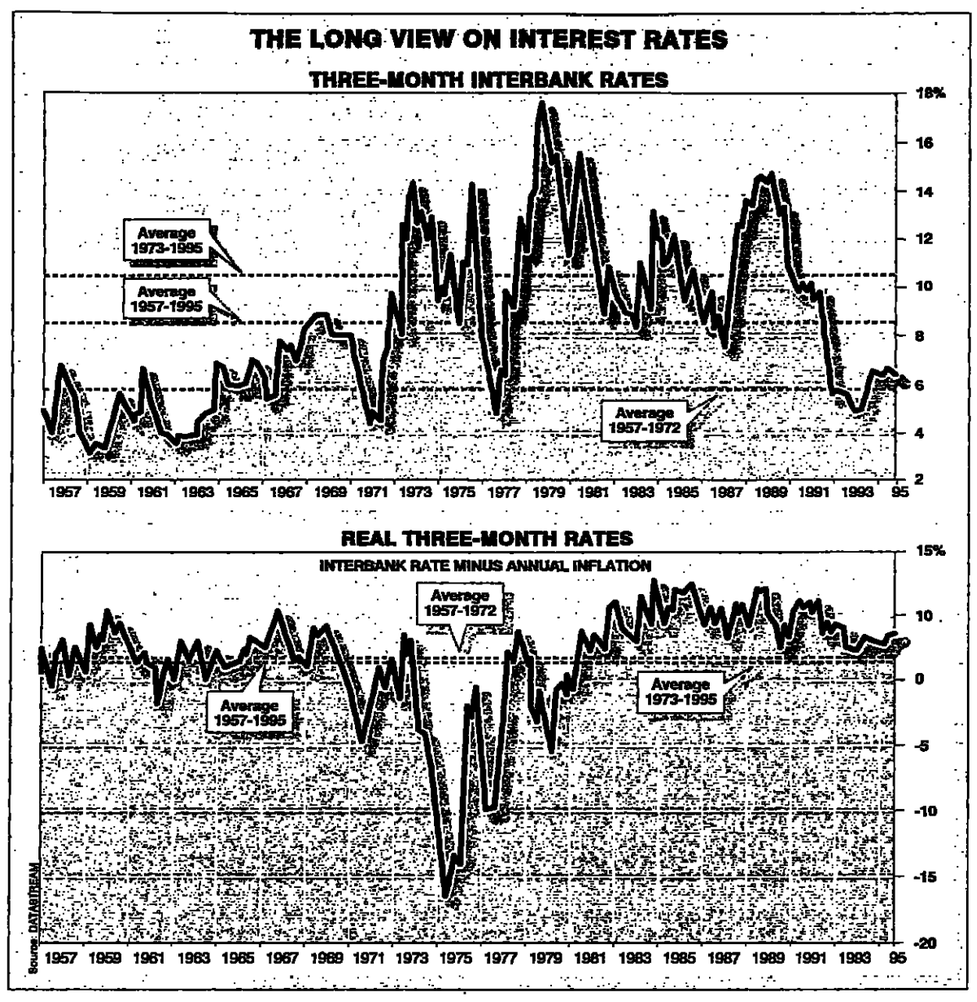
Market-maker

GATT slipped into the history books yesterday as trade officials gently applauded the last speech at the final meeting of the contracting parties who drew up the 1947 treaty that set the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on the road to opening markets around the world. Gatt is widely credited with helping to fuel the economic boom that followed the Second World War. One delegate said yesterday that Gatt had done its job too well. Communist Moscow once agreed, condemning Gatt as: "A colonialist creation bent on ensuring the domination of world imperialism over the toiling masses in Africa, Asia and Latin America." But both Russia and China are knocking on the door of its successor — the World Trade Organisation — which springs to life in the new year.

ECONOMIC VIEW  ANATOLE KALETSKY

The good news is: further interest rate cuts to follow

The long-term City expectations of a sharp rise from the end of 1996 are likely to be proved wrong



The mountain went into labour and brought forth a mouse. In saying this I do not mean to disaparage yesterday's cut in interest rates. To make this quite clear, I have carefully omitted the adjective "ridiculous" originally applied by Horace to his mouse. A small cut in interest rates is not necessarily ridiculous and can sometimes be very useful — just like the tiny mouse which appears in many a classical fable. What does seem mildly ridiculous is the fuss Britain makes about every tiny adjustment of interest rates. This time, however, the fuss is fully justified. I have four reasons for saying this — two unfortunate, but the other two very good.

Let us begin, as usual, with the bad news. The fuss over a mere quarter point is justified firstly because it has made the Governor of the Bank of England look foolish yet again.

Only last Thursday, Eddie George told the Commons Treasury Committee that he still thought interest rates should have been *raised* by half a point in May. He went on to declare that the Bank would not even "contemplate" a reduction in rates until it could see at least a 50 per cent probability that inflation in two years' time would be below the Government's 2.5 per cent target. He promised that the Bank would only move from this state of contemplation to an actual recommendation for monetary easing if "we are very confident that inflation will be below 2.5 per cent, allowing for a reduction in interest rates". Then, just to underline the ominous significance of these words, he added: "In our last published projection in early November, we thought that the prospects of achieving the inflation target had improved, but we were nevertheless not on track to achieve it."

What had happened to make the Governor, who only six days ago had described the outlook as "exceptionally uncertain" to the Treasury Committee, suddenly so "very confident" about low inflation?

The official answer is that all the economic figures published in the past six weeks have been lower than expected. But it takes a manic-depressive or a schizophrenic to believe that the long-term economic outlook can change from very uncertain to very confident in the course of a rather uneventful six weeks. Since Mr George suffers from neither of these conditions, it seems more likely that he was being economical with the truth, either yesterday or last week.

Either he was bullied by the Chancellor into recommending a rate cut against his better judgment. Or his blustering remarks before the Treasury Committee, along with the bearish tone of the Bank's *Inflation Report*, were both a cover — a cover designed to avoid a formal admission that the Bank had got its judgment wrong when it called for higher interest rates back in May. Either way, this episode has added to confusion and anxiety among the public, the business community and the financial markets.

This is a time when people in Britain should be investing in new factories and buying new homes, secure in the knowledge that interest rates will fall further and the monetary authorities will do everything in their power to maintain economic growth. Instead, businessmen, homeowners and investors are deliberately made to worry that interest rates might be kept up or pushed even higher while the economy is left to stagnate.

This damage could easily have been avoided if the Governor and the November *Inflation Report* had simply admitted that the Bank had made an honest mistake in May when it called for higher interest rates. The Bank could then have stated openly that conditions were now ripe for reductions in rates. Given that almost every economist and businessman in the country now believes that rate cuts are needed, the Governor would hardly have been disclosing state secrets if he had endorsed this consensus weeks ago.

This leads to my second cause for regret in yesterday's move: the quarter-point rate cut should have been at least half a point. After the Budget, there was almost nobody outside the Treasury who believed that the forecast of 3 per cent growth next year would be attained without big rate cuts. Just as importantly, the cautious fiscal policies announced in the Budget made big rate cuts achievable and sustainable from a financial point of view.

The vast majority of people in Britain still believe that rates of 6 or 7 per cent are an aberration

As this column has argued for years, low interest rates are a country's main reward for fiscal austerity and low inflation. Without low interest rates, a tough policy on taxes and public spending will simply produce a continuous recession. Businessmen's inability to raise prices will simply discourage investment and exacerbate unemployment. If the public and politicians of all parties start to believe that a quarter point off base rates is all they get in exchange for three years of unprecedented fiscal retrenchment and record low inflation, they may well conclude that the game is not worth the candle — as the French are beginning to recognise with regard to their *franc fort*.

But, fortunately, such anxiety about whether Britain will gain anything from fiscal austerity and low inflation is still premature — and here I come to my two items of good news. The first is the near-certainty that yesterday's rate cut will be followed by several more in the near future. By the middle of next year, the futures markets are expecting three-month interest rates to be down to 6 per cent. Given the present weakness of the British and European economies and the absence of inflationary pressures this seems broadly right.

The even better news is that the City's longer-term expectations — which point to a sharp rise in interest rates from the end of 1996 onwards — is likely to be proved wrong. To see one of the reasons why, I invite a glance at the charts above.

The vast majority of people in Britain still believe in their bones that interest rates of 6 or 7 per cent are some kind of temporary aberration. The typical or natural level of interest rates is seen as something nearer 10 per cent. The charts suggest why many people believe this and also why they are probably wrong. The top chart shows average interest rates for the past 38 years and also for two critical subperiods: the period of stability which ended with the worldwide inflationary crisis of 1973 and the period since then.

The average three-month interest rate for the whole period was 8.6 per cent and the average for the post-crisis period was 10.5 per cent. Hence the widespread view that today's interest rates are unusually low. But looking back to the non-inflationary period from the late 1950s to the end of 1972, the average rate is only 5.9 per cent. This is the kind of environment we are now in.

The bottom chart is even more suggestive. It shows "real" interest rates, adjusted for inflation. While real interest rates have fluctuated widely over the past 38 years, their long-term average level has been uncannily constant. The average was 1.62 per cent from 1957 to 1995, 1.67 per cent from 1957 to 1972 and has been 1.59 per cent since 1973.

In comparison with these long-term averages, the real interest rate of 3.3 per cent after yesterday's cut is still exceptionally high. (The many building society savers who write in to me to complain about my persistent advocacy of lower interest rates should please note this.) As the bottom chart shows, the high real interest rates from 1981 onwards have effectively been a payback for the exceptionally low and negative rates seen in the eight wildly inflationary years before that.

This inflationary period is now at an end and the payback to investors who were robbed in the 1970s may be almost over. If so, then real interest rates will fall steadily back towards their average levels of between 1.5 and 2 per cent. Let us assume that Britain manages to keep inflation within the 1 to 4 per cent range which generally prevailed in the 1950s and 1960s. Let us add one percentage point to the long-term average of 1.6 per cent, just for good measure. Even then, it is clear that interest rates should rarely, if ever, exceed 7 per cent.

I firmly believe that the next ten years will bear a far closer resemblance to the 1950s and 1960s than to anything we have seen since the crisis of 1973. Hence my long-held confidence that rates above 7 per cent will not be seen in the foreseeable future except perhaps in brief moments of crisis. If I am right, then we can look forward to many more rate cuts — whether Eddie George likes it or not.

Philips ready for life after the Hurricane

Brand-builder chosen to become next chairman, says **Sarah Cunningham**

Philips, the Dutch electronics company that many people still believe is British, has passed up the chance to appoint a British chairman. Sticking with tradition, the company has nominated a Dutchman, Cor Boonstra, to take over next year.

Dudley Eustace, Philips's vice-president and finance director and a former finance director of British Aerospace, was a name circulating when it became clear that Philips was looking for the successor to Jan Timmer.

In the investment community, Mr Eustace was seen as a long-shot candidate. "It would be very unusual to appoint a chief finance officer as chief executive officer. It happens, but it is not the usual route," one analyst said.

Mr Eustace had a difficult time at British Aerospace, where he was finance officer during a turbulent period, 1988-92. He has redeemed himself at Philips where he is seen as one of the engineers of its remarkable turnround. The company came close to collapse in 1990, losing 4.2 billion Dutch guilders (£1.7 billion). Last year, it made a profit of 2.1 billion guilders. Mr Boonstra, who is in charge of Philips's lighting division and corporate marketing, was proposed as chairman on December 4, but is not due to move into the job until October next year. He too is considered an unusual choice for the electronics group in that he has only been with Philips for 18 months. "He will be the first Philips chairman not to have worked for the company for 20 or so years," one Amsterdam broker said.



Eustace: passed over

"Philips's problem was that it has a boardroom full of nearly-chairmen," he added. Pierre Everaert and Henk Bodt, also vice-presidents, were equally strong contenders. Andrew Griffin, electronics analyst with NatWest Securities, said: "There was some disappointment that it is another Dutchman, given that it is such an international company."

Mr Boonstra's nomination comes at a delicate time for Philips, which, after excellent 1994 results, announced in October a disappointing third-quarter performance showing a sharp drop in profit in consumer electronics, the group's biggest single business. The sector's operating results fell from 114 million guilders to just eight million guilders and Philips's share price fell 12 per cent in one day.

Grundig, its German consumer electronics company, was the chief cause of the problems. This final quarter is seen as crucial because consumer electronic sales are traditionally concentrated around Christmas, and analysts are waiting for the full-year results in February with special interest.

Sorting out Grundig's problems will be the next task for Philips and it is unlikely to wait until Mr Boonstra takes over next autumn before making further cutbacks there.

The consensus is that Philips is undervalued: "The sum of the parts is much higher than the share price," Mr Griffin said. But its consumer electronics division is seen as a major handicap, eroding the value of its successful lighting, components and semi-conductor businesses.

A Dutch analyst said: "What Philips needs is to make some strategic acquisitions in multimedia and build a long-term strategy." But he doubted that Mr Boonstra was the man to do this — he is better known as a cost-cutter in the mould of Jan Timmer, who earned the nickname in Eindhoven, Philips's home town, of "Hurricane Gilbert".

Mr Timmer took over at Philips's low point in 1990. His Operation Centurion, the most radical restructuring seen at a Dutch company, cut 60,000 jobs from a workforce of 310,000.

Mr Boonstra came to Philips after 20 years at Sara Lee, the US food group. This foreign experience and his skills in building brands are expected to work in his favour and could finally see an end to the company's reputation for failing, in a very British manner, to market some excellent inventions.

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BUSINESS LETTERS

Commission is wrong way to pay financial advisers

From Mr Jonathon Clark

Sir, It really is too easy for your columnists to lambast the financial services profession for allegedly selling to commission rather than the client's needs (Pennington, December 7 and others) without looking a little more deeply at the situation. Such practice is rightly to be condemned, but is hardly to be wondered at when the commission system from life companies is so haphazard in its structure.

Why should a lump sum invested in a unit trust pay 3 per cent while the same amount placed in an investment bond pays nearly double that? Why should a regular unit trust savings plan of £100 per month pay £3 per month commission, totalling £900 over 25 years, while an equivalent endowment pays an immediate sum of something over £1,100. Until such inequalities are ironed out, the temptation will always exist for the financial adviser — though that does not excuse them.

The real problem is that a commission-based system is a totally inappropriate way to compensate someone offering professional advice. However, the general reluctance of clients to pay fees which adequately compensate advisers for regulation expenses, training and administrative (ie, non-chargeable) work means that we are stuck with the present siutation.

One solution would be to make it illegal for life companies to pay commission. As a result, the public would have to pay for their advice through fees, rather than the back door which commission offers. In that case, journalists and consumer groups would no longer have the financial advisers as the easy whipping boys they are at present.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHON CLARK,
14 Croftdown Road,
Harborne,
Birmingham.

Beating BT to the benefits of works councils — without the fuss

From Mr David Goodenday

Sir, You report that BT is establishing works councils. I cannot understand the fuss. In my old company (Kayser Bondor, which your older readers may remember with almost as much affection as I do) we had works councils in all our 11 units. They met monthly. Annually, there was a Council of Works Councils, over a weekend at our headquarters, attended by all members. This was all established immediately after the war.

This certainly contributed to the excellent employee morale and seems to me an obviously beneficial arrangement for both management and staff.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GOODENDAY,
Bunkers Dip,
Neville Drive, N2.

Profit motive should play no part in decisions on the future of utilities

From Dr R. D. S. Bloore

Sir, I read with incredulity the report in Friday's Business Section (December 8) that spot electricity prices rose from an average of £26.94 per megawatt hour to £1,108. An increase of over 4,000 per cent, after a cold snap lasting for a few days, fills me with foreboding. What will happen when we get another big freeze? Were such rises contemplated by the Government when it was privatising the electricity board or closing most of our coal mines?

Surely, following on the heels of the debacle at Yorkshire Water, the time has come for an in-depth public investigation into these serious problems, before rushing headlong into further privatisations.

The main problems encountered in splitting up the national utilities are twofold: considerations of the public good are replaced by the profit motive and the relationship between the separate parts have to rely on contracts.

I perceive four main problems with these contracts. First, people are seldom clear exactly what they want a contract to provide for. Secondly, they are unlikely to foresee all eventualities. Thirdly, the drafting is rarely perfect. Finally, however good the drafting, the parties often disagree on the precise meaning of the wording used. When several parties are tied together by a raft of contracts, disagreements are assured.

The criterion for all decisions should be long-term stewardship in which short-term gain should play no part. If the Government carries on with its present short-term policy, which appears to be: if it moves sack it, if it doesn't sell it; it is sure to end in tears, not only for us, but for future generations.

Yours faithfully,
R. D. S. BLOORE,
Jubilee Villa,
89 Haliburton Road,
St Margarets,
Twickenham.

Not such a simple task

Michael Everett had an inside track to the Revenue's tax report

DES JENSON



Michael Everett got a unique view of the Revenue at work

It is often bewailed that much of the cream of today's graduates are siphoned off into the accountancy profession, and an increasing proportion then specialise in tax. The ever-increasing demand for tax professionals appears to be an absurd waste of our country's resources. The cause is simple: the increasing complexity of the UK tax system, which has almost imploded through its over-sophistication.

Tax advisers have recently made a number of demands for the simplification of tax legislation. As a result of this, the Spring 1995 Finance Bill included a clause requiring the Inland Revenue to produce a report on criticisms of the complexity and length of tax legislation, and to present possible solutions. The report, *The Path to Tax Simplification*, was published this week.

In 1918, the whole of tax law was a mere 180 pages. By the 1970s, annual additions were reaching 100 pages. The 1994 Finance Act contained 345 pages of new legislation and this Act was preceded and followed by Acts of similar enormity. Despite a thin Budget speech, the 1996 Act looks set to match those figures, if it is to encompass all the technical detail notified in the post-Budget press releases. But it is not length alone which gives rise to difficulty, it is complexity. Recent tax legislation has included provisions for the prevention of tax avoidance involving pre-entry capital losses, treatment of foreign exchange gains and losses, and taxation of financial instruments. The proliferation of new material in such specialist areas, together with the manner in which the legislation is written, has made it almost impossible to understand large parts of tax law.

The key to the Revenue's proposals is a wholesale re-write of all tax legislation in "plain English" over five years. It envisages setting up a team to manage this project, including several private-sector secondees. As well as plain language techniques — shorter sentences, simpler syntax, avoidance of jargon — modern design techniques will be used to make legislation more accessible. Participating in this project gave me a glimpse of the other side of the tax profession. Once acclimatised to having a foot in two camps, it was interesting to observe the way the Revenue's head office works. In spite of recent cuts, the Revenue still appears to have a time and space advantage over the private sector. The higher levels are still redolent of the academic world, and many of the idiosyncrasies of this world seep into the Revenue and its legislation. The Revenue is the organisation that originates tax law, and historically its resources have enabled it to create complex law. The team that wrote this week's report had time and space to give to careful consideration of the issues which the private sector could never afford. If business wrote tax law, it might be short, sharp and easier to administer.

Can rewriting the law achieve the necessary improvements? Many have said that, unless underlying tax policy is simplified, no significant benefits will accrue. The Revenue acknowledges that a complex world leads to complex laws. No taxpayer would welcome a crude solution that denied equity to taxpayers. But the very complexity of most tax law today creates its own inequity that many feel outweighs the inequity it is trying to avoid. The Revenue's report does not focus on this area as it sees policy changes as the preserve of government, not the Revenue. Thus the report does not give detailed commentary on interesting proposals that have been made for reform of our tax system, such as following accounts profits for tax purposes, or abolishing the schedular system.

Some say if tax law were not so long and complex tax advisers would be out of a job. Most deny this. Ian Barlow, KPMG's head of tax, said: "Business is finding it more difficult fully to understand tax law. This report is most welcome — tax simplification should provide more certainty and lower compliance costs. This will help businesses and the economy as a whole."

Michael Everett was seconded from KPMG Tax Advisers to the Inland Revenue team.

They won't be taking holidays in Jersey

SPITTING blood while remaining tight-lipped is tricky. But then that is the difference between behaviour in private and in public. KPMG, having gone through all the trauma, technical tightrope-walking and tax hits of going for partial incorporation, has been making little comment about this week's development in the saga of the battle against litigation. But the fact that other firms seem to have found a simpler remedy cannot have left KPMG's partners a happy bunch. As the senior partner of one of the other firms said: "They must be spitting blood."

It is early days but the remedy of suggesting to Jersey that the island's legislation should create a limited-liability partnership provision that would ape the version now available in the US State of Delaware has an elegance and simplicity that leaves people wondering why they never thought of it before. US firms all took up the Delaware option with alacrity. The UK firms, except for KPMG, are expected to do likewise with the Jersey option. It provides all the advantages of having the legal entity offshore but without the stigma. Jersey statutes must be approved by the UK Privy Council, and Law Lords, sitting as the Council's judicial committee, are the final court of appeal. It does not solve everything by any means. But it does take the partners' personal assets out of the equation. If the partnership makes a mistake, litigants will still let them have it with both barrels, but it will be the partnership as a business and the individual partner who was negligent who will get it in the neck. Families will not have to expect the bailiff's cart to arrive outside the front door just because an audit partner at the other end of the country had a temporary aberration with the stock figures.



ROBERT BRUCE

It has all come with impeccable timing. The Binders judgment the week before had shown just what the stakes are. An audit partner with the firm, which has not done the audit of company A, is asked in a throwaway remark by the chairman of company B, which he also has nothing to do with, whether the accounts of company A, which the auditor has reviewed, are all right. In an informal setting, he is hardly going to say they are nonsense. He says that they are fine.

Later it turns out all is not well. But by then the chairman of company B has bought company A and people want to know why he has bought a pup. He goes to court. The intriguing issue is to what extent the decision to buy company A rested on an informal chat.

The assumption is that the £105 million of damages, interest and costs the partners are supposedly going to have to find between them will either evaporate or be drastically reduced on appeal. But that is not the point. As a result of the ruling, 150 or so partners and their families will spend the next few months wondering if life as they know it is going to come to an end. Whatever the state of the purchased duff company, this cannot be a just way of going about things.

Then there is the narrower business point. The great value, if not the prime purpose of hiring an adviser, is to get his or her advice. Under this ruling, no one will ever give an informal opinion again. It is daft. But the accountancy profession has become used to living in a state of considerable daftness. What is required, as *The Wall Street Journal* pointed out in its leader column last Friday, is "reform of the joint and several liability rule which often means that accountants and other bystanders, who are responsible for only a small share of the damages, wind up footing the entire bill". The Jersey scheme does not address that problem: only the Government and the courts can. A move to some sort of proportional liability system is fair and just. In the US, President Clinton is poised to sign the legislation that will do just that. The hope is that action will wake a few people up over here and reform may come faster than slower. The enigma which is left is quite what the partners at KPMG do, apart from seethe. When they were presented with the pile of documents which led them, eventually, to vote for partial incorporation, they were told this was pragmatism and not perfectionism. But they were also told the limited liability partnership route had been vetoed by several very distinguished counsels' opinions. It is not obvious whether they vetoed the original, unsuitable, 1994 Jersey partnership law or whether they were aware of the prospect of a newly tailored version.

In any case, the KPMG incorporation plan was always more about imposing greater control on the business. But as a result we can expect both Ernst & Young and Price Waterhouse to fill the air with praise for the ethos of partnerships in the months to come.

Drastic measures

THEY do things with such enthusiasm in the US. Their proposed legislation, which would bring proportional liability to accountants, is part of a wider tranche of measures to outlaw "frivolous" litigation. Some lawyers are naturally furious. A newspaper advertising campaign has been launched in an attempt to stay the presidential signature. It has dubbed the new proposals a "Crooks and Swindlers Protection Act."

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Matter of timing

POOR old Moorgate Place. The English ICA called a press conference at its headquarters this Monday to reveal the detail of its merger proposals with Cima, the management accounting body. Unfortunately the steamroller of commerce ran them down. Price Waterhouse called a press conference at the same time to reveal its news on Jersey and litigation. The ICA duly changed its date. And chose the same time that the Inland Revenue was due to reveal its thinking on tax simplification. Worse, it was the same afternoon when the City vanishes to Twickenham for the Varsity match. The next reschedule is thought to be aimed for Christmas Day.

Free-for-all

IN ANY case the original merger issue is now dead. Last week the Privy Council announced that "with immediate effect" members of Cima could henceforth style themselves "chartered management accountants" and the certified accountants could also call themselves chartered something-or-others as long as they come up with a new name. Now that everyone is gaining the cherished "chartered" sobriquet, the need for mergers to gain a social leg-up has vanished.

Lost in space

IT MUST be the distractions of Jersey legislation. Coopers & Lybrand have a "tax site" on the Internet. And before the Budget they were telling enthusiasts to "be sure to visit this area again a week after the Budget, when we will be adding more information about the implications of changes for businesses and individuals". But their minds must be on other things. Two weeks after the Budget nothing had been added.

ROBERT BRUCE

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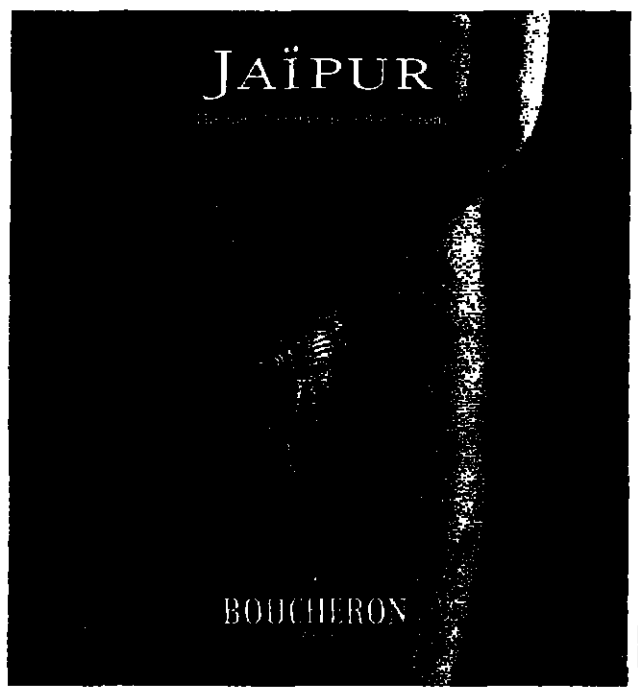
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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 01895 259 783				
Global Amer	200.90	212.50†	+ 0.20	0.16
Global Equity	270.40	287.60	- 0.30	2.05
Global Euro	238.90	252.80	- 0.40	1.45
Global Expt Bal	125.80	130.30	...	0.81
Global Gilt	77.13	79.52	- 0.03	4.39
Global Japan	174.80	185.00†	...	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	617.40	656.90	+ 0.60	2.60
General Inc	530.50	564.40	+ 0.60	2.60
UK Growth Acc	416.80	443.50	+ 0.60	2.83
UK Growth Inc	277.70	295.50	+ 0.40	2.83
Higher Inc Acc	762.70	811.40	+ 0.90	4.17
Higher Inc Inc	424.40	451.50	+ 0.40	4.17
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	206.60	218.10	- 0.20	5.51
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.96	100.20	- 0.10	5.51
Nth America	336.80	358.30	- 3.00	
Europe	317.60	337.90	- 1.50	0.65
Brit Excell	83.36	88.68†	+ 0.32	2.94
Brit Fedrtn Acc	111.40	118.60	+ 0.10	4.73
Brit Fedrtn Inc	78.03	83.02	+ 0.10	4.73
Global Oppc	95.80	102.00†	+ 0.20	0.22
Balanced Acc	60.49	64.36	+ 0.03	2.84
Balanced Inc	57.89	61.59	+ 0.04	2.84
Japan Acc	47.38	50.41	- 0.02	
Pac Basin Acc	385.00	409.60	+ 0.80	1.01
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	132.30	140.30†	+ 0.10	7.13
High Inc Equity	174.50	185.60		4.22
Worldwide Bond	293.00	310.70†	...	4.51
American Growth	338.50	361.60	- 0.50	0.38
Asian Pacific	315.80	337.90	+ 0.60	
Assets & Earnings	286.00	304.30†	- 0.70	2.85
Euro Capital Acc	159.90	171.00	- 0.90	0.60
Extra Inc	44.60	47.54	- 0.02	8.46
General	261.00	277.70	- 0.40	3.00
Global Opps	59.05	62.82	+ 0.07	0.48
Japan	124.90	133.60	+ 0.30	
Managed Inc	47.39	50.41	- 0.05	4.61
Mastertrust	153.20	163.90	- 0.20	1.44
US Emerging Cos	178.30	190.30	+ 0.50	
Ethical	74.31	79.05	+ 0.14	2.48
International	127.40	135.50	- 0.10	0.60
Dividend & Growth	65.67	69.86	- 0.14	4.02
Global Gwth & Sec	70.70	75.51	- 0.01	2.68
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
Uk Small Cos	1985.00	2040.00	..	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	56.07	59.24	- 0.13	0.53
Cash	50.09	50.09†	+ 0.01	5.84
Emerging Mkts	54.71	58.58	+ 0.08	0.05
European	127.60	132.70	- 1.50	.
Exempt	1017.30	1098.30	+ 1.10	1.71
Extra Income #	48.22	51.65†	+ 0.09	6.58
Far East Emg Ecn	120.10	126.10	+ 0.90	0.58
Fixed Interest #	23.69	24.64†	+ 0.07	9.53
Fund Inv Tst	165.70	174.60	- 0.10	8.94
Japan	188.10	195.60	+ 0.40	..
Latin American	47.74	50.10	+ 0.14	0.97
Pacific	81.08	85.13	+ 0.36	0.31
Property Share	62.26	65.35	+ 0.15	2.89
UK Emerging Cos	69.23	73.76	+ 0.01	1.68
UK Growth	48.97	51.90	+ 0.03	2.26
Aber World Port #	78.02	79.55†	- 0.09	2.06
Ethical	71.96	74.74†	- 0.11	2.35
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.78	50.78†	- 0.01	7.39
For AEGON see Matheson				
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0171 256 5868				
Resdtl Property	97.22	104.20	.	5.18
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	82.60	87.64	+ 0.07	2.34
Income Builder Inc	75.07	79.86†	+ 0.10	2.72
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	257.50	275.20	+ 0.50	2.83
Capital	455.30	485.70	..	1.70
Balanced	753.90	805.90†	+ 1.20	2.47
Accumulator	1437.00	1538.00	+ 0.40	2.65
Income Trusts				
American Income	57.95	61.94	+ 0.10	2.87
High Income	422.20	451.30	+ 1.20	3.42
Equity Income	237.70	254.10	+ 0.50	3.38
High Yield	256.50	274.18†	+ 0.50	3.17
Govt Securities	34.87	36.80	+ 0.03	5.76
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	189.50	202.50	..	0.35
European Growth	42.55	45.33	- 0.56	0.01
International	178.50	190.70	- 0.50	0.17
Japan	204.60	218.00†	- 0.10	0.01
Pacific	401.50	429.20	+ 0.40	0.01
Secs of America	537.60	572.60†	- 3.40	0.40
Wrwde Asset Val	52.84	56.48	- 0.19	0.21
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	569.99	609.20†	+ 0.60	2.10
Conv & Gilt	44.57	47.64	+ 0.09	4.87
Smaller Cos	189.30	202.30†	...	1.18
2nd Smaller Cos	179.30	191.50	..	1.27
Recovery	150.40	160.70	+ 0.10	1.63
Met Min & Cmdty	169.60	181.30†	- 1.30	0.65
Oseas Earnings	380.80	407.00†	+ 3.30	1.66
Technology	215.60	230.40†	- 2.80	0.01
UK Special Sits	519.80	555.60†	+ 2.10	1.56
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Charitd Ost Pens	110.40	115.10	..	3.04
Foundtn Persl Pens	66.09	68.86	..	1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	77.22	82.15	+ 0.22	1.77
International	68.97	73.37	+ 0.05	..
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	302.60	325.00	+ 0.80	..
Bond	121.30	127.50	...	6.57
Brit Smlr Cos	110.80	117.90	...	1.70
Conv & Gen #	68.65	73.68	...	5.38
Europe	237.10	252.30†	...	0.62
Euro Smlr Cos	106.90	114.20†	...	1.82
Income Gwth	370.00	393.60†	...	3.88
Japan	329.70	351.20	...	...
Latin American	68.79	73.18	...	...
Pacific	106.50	113.30†	...	1.25
UK Smlr Cos	58.80	62.55	...	1.28
Japan Fd	666.00	707.80	...	..
Mngd Fd	190.80	202.60	...	2.94
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	340.10	359.80	..	0.80
Capital Gwth	118.90	125.80	..	2.61
Wwide Opps	206.40	218.30	..	0.92
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bist Inv Fd Inc	385.70	401.80†	+ 0.10	2.58
European Bal Inc	95.24	99.53	+ 0.03	6.83
Exempt	77.39	82.55†	+ 0.05	4.86
Financial	92.11	98.52†	- 0.21	2.46
500	488.00	506.00	- 0.30	2.84
General	295.70	316.80	- 0.60	2.57
Property	237.10	254.40†	...	6.49
Trustee	209.70	223.70	...	2.24
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.90	100.90	...	6.02
Extra Income #	127.10	135.90	- 0.20	4.94
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.99	61.08†	+ 0.03	6.14
Income	563.20	602.40	- 0.30	3.81
Income Builder #	65.50	70.94	+ 0.03	5.52
Intl Income	68.23	72.59	- 0.01	3.18
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	131.80	140.50	- 0.26	2.25
Leisure	148.50	158.60	..	1.11
Recovery	439.80	470.40	- 0.29	2.82
Smlr Cos Inc	48.46	51.97	- 0.04	2.14
Special Sits	337.00	360.50	- 0.20	1.52
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	161.80	172.00†	..	0.29
Aust Acc	272.60	291.40	+ 2.80	1.84
Aust Inc	164.40	175.70†	+ 1.70	1.84
Euro Gwth Inc	166.30	176.50	- 0.70	0.74
-do- Accum	179.60	190.60	- 0.70	0.74
Japan & Gen Inc	164.70	174.40	- 0.40	..
-do- Accum	166.60	176.40	- 0.40	..
Japan Spec Sits	74.99	79.87	- 0.17	..
Univ Tech Inc	91.17	96.97	- 0.41	..
Worldwide	186.70	199.20	+ 0.10	0.62
BARING FUND MANGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	116.50	123.20	- 0.80	..
Amer Smlr Cos	151.70	162.20	- 0.60	..
Convertibles	55.17	59.19	+ 0.18	5.40
Eastern	285.60	308.10	...	0.30
Equity Income	88.18	94.43	+ 0.18	3.80
European Growth	327.30	347.40	- 2.90	0.80
Europe	269.60	286.40†	- 1.00	0.30
German Growth	80.17	85.05	+ 0.07	0.50
Global Bond	69.89	73.60	+ 0.09	6.50
Global Growth	141.10	150.20†	- 0.50	..
Japan Growth	206.10	219.50	- 0.19	..
Japan Sunrise	157.50	167.90	+ 0.10	..
Korea Trust	77.86	85.00	- 1.26	..
Portfolio	138.50	148.10	...	2.90
-do- Accum	257.90	275.90	+ 0.10	2.30
UK Growth	88.14	94.33	+ 0.12	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	82.89	88.49	+ 0.13	2.50
Select Managers	81.87	87.75	- 0.20	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	85.02	90.45	...	...
Special Oppor Inc	57.08	60.72	...	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	124.38	131.51	..	1.52
-do- Accum	142.20	150.47	..	1.32
Smaller Cos	125.25	132.65†	..	0.81
Higher Yield #	51.43	54.42	..	4.35
American Gth Inc	87.40	92.48	..	..
European Growth	147.25	155.82	...	0.21
-do- Accum	150.15	158.89	...	0.21
Global Bond Inc #	27.70	29.70†	...	7.07
Mngd Ptflo Inc	47.46	50.20	...	1.40
-do- Accum	48.67	51.48	...	1.40
Int Spec Opps	140.27	148.54	...	...
Pacific Gth	136.27	144.20	..	0.30
UK General #	85.35	90.31	..	2.98
-do- Accum #	88.90	94.07	.	2.98
Japan	80.83	84.87	...	...
Gilt & Fixed Int #	101.92	105.62†	...	8.46
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	67.80	68.67	- 0.02	6.18
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 837 5060				
Environ	168.50	179.20†	- 0.40	1.79
UK Growth	190.50	202.60	- 0.20	2.97
UK Income	141.70	150.60	- 0.10	4.31
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD 01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dist	216.60	229.60	+ 0.10	1.73
-do- Income Dist	116.00	122.90†	- 0.10	4.07
-do- Accum	365.00	386.90	- 0.20	4.07
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.88	44.40	+ 0.05	6.13
Growth Units	229.60	245.60	- 0.60	2.04
Bond	178.50	188.00	- 0.10	6.18
Intl Growth	235.30	250.20	- 0.20	0.28
North American	237.20	252.50	- 0.10	0.25
Far East	292.70	313.00	+ 1.30	1.07
UK Smaller Cos	195.40	209.00	- 0.20	1.46
European	88.87	94.51	- 0.07	0.68
Japanese Growth	48.88	51.89	+ 0.13	...
High Income	203.50	217.60	- 0.50	4.02
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	190.90	203.10	...	...
European Inc	85.92	90.94	- 0.95	1.82
Smaller Cos (4-1)	91.78	97.84	- 0.26	1.45
Growth	483.80	514.70	+ 2.80	1.73
Income & Growth #	436.70	464.50	- 1.80	3.89
-do- Accum #	636.00	676.60	- 2.40	3.89
Japan & Gen	71.27	75.87	- 0.29	..
Master Portfolio	£111.18	£114.95	+ 13.00	2.15
-do- Accum	£134.82	£139.40	+ 16.00	2.15
Special Sits	112.70	119.80	...	1.85
High Yield	£14.02	£14.49†	+ 3.00	4.42

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	94.26	100.70	.	2.54
American Portfolio	113.11	119.97†	.	0.93
European Portfolio	111.25	118.62	...	0.49
High Income	52.42	52.51†	...	8.09
Japanese Portfolio	69.54	73.98	+ 0.11	...
Pacific Portfolio	145.75	158.73†	+ 0.56	1.43
UK Inc & Growth	86.52	92.71	...	3.05
Utility & Bond	56.89	57.70	..	8.61
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	719.06	729.82	..	4.41
Fxd In Sec	157.49	158.13	..	9.04
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	722.94	733.06	..	4.35
Investment Acc	231.84	232.32	...	
Fixed Int Inc	130.36	130.88	..	8.79
Fixed Int Acc	218.95	217.81	.	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	93.61	98.76	...	3.01
Beck Bio-Tech	42.13	45.52†	...	
Acorn Ethical Tst	168.35	176.78†	...	0.72
City Fin Accum	77.26	81.13	...	2.06
City Fin America	104.81	110.06	...	
City Fin Inc	87.68	92.07†	..	0.89
City Fin Japan	151.54	159.13	...	
Friars Hse Cap	296.94	310.47	..	2.35
Friars Hse Inc	191.78	208.34†	..	4.32
Buckley Wrld Grth	139.50	146.89	...	
Fairmnt Cap Gth	145.55	153.21†	...	
Fairmount Intl	153.60	161.69†	...	
J Sft Inc/Gth Inc	57.04	59.90†	..	2.44
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	55.40	58.78	+ 0.27	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	76.47	81.35	- 0.22	...
Dragon Growth	68.52	73.28	+ 0.11	0.92
Equity High Inc	87.39	92.97†	+ 0.24	4.08
-do- Accum	122.18	129.96	+ 0.34	4.08
Extra Income Inc	27.00	28.44	+ 0.03	7.11
Extra Income Acc	28.19	29.59	+ 0.03	7.11
European Gwth	57.13	60.62	- 0.55	1.12
Evergreen	29.31	31.34	- 0.08	..
General Equity	94.79	100.57	+ 0.22	2.80
Japan Growth	52.63	55.90	- 0.16	..
Pedigree Gwth	57.44	61.11	+ 0.14	2.82
Pref Sha Cos Inc	33.32	35.45†	..	1.58
-do- Accum	35.09	37.33	..	1.56
Retirement Inc #	26.77	28.48	+ 0.07	5.87
Special Sits	42.38	45.09	- 0.10	2.20
UK & Overseas	54.73	58.07	- 0.21	0.78
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD 01634 805 000				
Capital	75.25	78.38	+ 0.15	1.94
Balanced	65.27	67.98	+ 0.17	4.13
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	178.41	181.29	+ 0.50	4.83
Fixed & Convertible	41.10	43.72	+ 0.11	6.55
Monthly Inc Plus	50.25	53.46	+ 0.03	8.38
Preference Share	47.19	50.20	+ 0.02	7.77
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	130.09	138.39	+ 0.27	5.87
Managed Fund	73.22	77.89	+ 0.03	3.02
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	43.40	46.17	+ 0.13	1.76
-do- Accum	50.52	53.74	+ 0.15	1.76
UK & General	88.38	94.02	+ 0.29	2.72
-do- Accum	113.43	120.67	+ 0.37	2.72
UK Growth	165.56	176.08	+ 0.44	2.30
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	200.60	213.40	- 2.63	0.11
Far Eastern Gth	133.30	141.81	- 0.83	..
Global Bond	84.74	90.05	+ 0.07	5.67
Japan Growth	118.97	126.56	- 0.55	..
North Amer Gth	213.27	226.88	- 0.46	..
Oriental Growth	80.22	85.34	+ 0.05	0.06
Worldwide Growth	72.23	76.84	- 0.06	0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.33	92.33	+ 0.02	6.13
Homemaker Fund	87.86	93.47	+ 0.09	1.82
Quilter Fund	144.41	153.63	+ 0.14	1.88
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	33.33	35.67		3.34
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	170.00	180.90†	+ 0.40	1.79
Income	71.20	75.74	+ 0.37	5.79
European	65.55	69.73	- 0.43	0.64
Recovery	165.90	177.80	+ 0.30	2.09
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	906.50	921.80†	...	3.47
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 680 370				
Fellowship Tst	93.12	99.06	+ 0.07	1.51
Income #	264.70	281.50	..	4.25
-do- Accum #	678.60	721.90	- 0.20	4.28
Smaller Cos	199.70	212.40	- 0.19	0.97
-do- Accum	245.90	261.50	..	0.98
Inv Portfolio	90.49	96.26	- 0.07	1.55
High Inc Port #	77.43	82.37	+ 0.09	4.33
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	1537.70	1580.40†	...	..
Japan Small Cos	1206.70	1229.80†	..	..
UK Small Cos	1918.80	1997.30	.	..
US Small Cos	1961.00	1999.10†	.	..
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	218.50	230.00	..	2.95
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 315 2500				
European Gwth	297.30	314.40	- 3.10	0.67
New Asia	219.80	234.40	- 0.80	0.24
Japan Growth	112.09	119.10	+ 0.10	...
Jap Smllr Co	452.30	479.80	+ 1.70	..
Nth Amer	358.30	379.20	- 0.80	0.77
UK Inc & Grth	232.70	245.10	+ 0.70	2.85
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	154.50	164.30†	- 0.20	1.63
UK High Inc Inc	163.50	173.90†	- 0.30	4.14
-do- Accum	218.70	230.50†	- 0.40	4.14
UK Pref & F I Inc	58.71	63.34†	- 0.02	4.95
Emerald Oppc	91.78	97.63	+ 0.16	0.96
UK Smlr Cos #	60.26	64.10	- 0.12	0.01
Extra Income Inc	49.36	52.51	+ 0.10	7.80
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 090 525				
American	155.80	165.40†	- 0.30	1.06
Commodities #	21.11	22.43†	+ 0.03	6.24
Equity Income #	134.30	142.70†	+ 0.30	3.71
EuroFund	52.30	55.42	..	0.36
Financial	50.06	53.19	+ 0.14	1.41
Growth & Inc #	266.10	281.70	+ 0.50	2.73
High Dist #	168.10	178.60†	+ 0.50	4.29
International	413.30	439.10	- 1.60	0.11
Int Cap Inc	98.61	105.30	+ 0.40	2.61
Latin American	25.82	27.43	+ 0.17	...
Pacific	82.00	87.12	+ 0.02	..
Pref High Inc	21.98	23.84	+ 0.03	7.05
Tokyo	233.80	248.30	+ 0.80	...
UK Smaller Cos	250.50	266.20	- 0.40	1.03
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Dlgs	101.51	108.57	+ 2.24	1.47
Growth Acc	244.54	261.11	+ 6.88	0.88
Income	585.36	621.33	+ 1.82	5.21
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	217.90	231.80	..	1.19
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	85.31	89.80	- 0.71	2.04
Ethical Tst	46.40	48.84	- 0.01	1.33
Far Eastern	304.91	320.96	+ 0.37	1.65
High Income	134.36	141.45†	+ 0.64	4.85
Intl Growth	124.59	131.72	- 0.23	0.45
North American	137.16	144.46	+ 0.16	1.51
Pelican	128.91	135.69	+ 0.10	3.31
Smaller Cos	66.55	70.05†	+ 0.10	2.87
Special Sits	88.14	92.78	- 0.02	3.24
Tst of Inv Tsts	195.56	205.90	- 0.26	1.32
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	200.76	213.57	...	1.32
Smaller Cos Acc	355.30	377.98	...	1.32
Recovery	49.82	53.00†	...	1.51
Recovery Acc	50.99	54.24†	...	1.51
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	89.63	95.05	- 0.02	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	48.70	51.95	+ 0.08	8.56
High Income #	41.16	44.11	+ 0.01	10.43
Warrant	52.920	57.50	+ 0.03	...
Zero Preference	42.20	44.77†	- 0.03	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	81.34	86.53	- 0.08	3.28
Family Income Tst	45.34	45.34	+ 0.230	6.58
Family Trust	89.81	95.64	- 0.19	2.31
United Charities	267.40	284.40	+ 2.800	5.11
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients: 0800-414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	6.20
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	28.23	28.32†	+ 0.04	7.66
Intl Bond	30.50	31.64	- 0.01	5.30
Income Funds				
High Income	26.55	28.85†	+ 0.02	5.37
Income Plus	128.60	128.39†	+ 0.20	4.13
Amer Eq Inc	58.09	61.55	- 0.03	1.44
European Income	45.27	48.14	- 0.19	2.35
Far East Inc	67.51	71.70†	+ 0.12	2.30
Global Convertible	24.70	26.25	+ 0.04	2.66
UK Div Grth	28.01	29.79	+ 0.06	2.23
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	63.19	67.41	- 0.05	..
American	305.20	324.20†	- 1.70	...
Amer Spec Sits	168.70	179.60	+ 0.30	...
Japan Smaller Cos	36.55	38.89	- 0.04	...
European	196.60	209.10	- 0.78	0.65
European Opps	69.58	73.97	- 0.25	0.15
Global Pvt	27.37	29.13	- 0.37	0.77
UK Growth	106.40	113.20	+ 0.10	1.25
Growth & Inc	160.48	170.80	+ 0.58	2.76
Intl PEP	43.03	45.75	- 0.02	1.06
Japan Spec Sits	90.86	96.74	- 0.24	..
Japan	190.60	202.50	- 1.10	...
Managed Intl	324.00	344.30	- 1.80	0.43
MoneyBuilder	60.22	64.04	- 0.05	...
Recovery	51.08	54.32	- 0.05	1.42
South E Asia	169.40	180.70	+ 0.20	1.07
Special Sits	605.60	644.00	+ 0.40	0.72
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	112.18	112.18	+ 0.02	6.20
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2780				
Balanced #	143.80	145.40	...	2.02
Inc Ptflo #	86.04	90.69†	+ 0.11	3.40
Cap Ptflo	155.20	157.60	..	1.44
General Opps	133.80	135.40†	+ 0.20	3.43
Growth Inc	34.14	34.87†	+ 0.10	1.34
Private Portfolio	453.20	462.40	- 0.90	1.84
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 010				
European	123.60	127.30	- 0.50	0.60
Emrg Asian	154.10	164.80	- 0.30	..
High Income	21.35	22.67†	+ 0.01	3.93
UK Growth	117.90	126.00	...	2.44
UK Income	106.40	113.50†	+ 0.30	4.21
US Smaller Cos	379.50	405.30	- 0.60	0.35
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
-do- Inv Tst Inc	77.71	81.71	...	4.18
Investment Trust	100.25	105.42	...	..
UK Smaller Cos	92.42	97.18	...	0.98

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	72.54	77.31	- 0.67	..
-do- Accum	72.54	77.31	- 0.67	..
Amer Smlr Cos	624.80	668.80	- 2.50	..
-do- Accum	638.10	682.50	- 2.49	...
Capital Int	337.10	358.50	- 0.40	1.40
-do- Accum	489.60	520.70	- 0.50	1.43
Contl Smlr Cos	56.61	60.45	- 0.34	0.58
-do- Accum	59.74	63.79	- 0.36	0.58
Convertible	133.60	142.30	+ 0.30	5.41
-do- Accum	275.90	293.50	+ 0.70	5.41
Emerging Markets	63.87	68.23†	+ 0.16	..
-do- Accum	64.12	68.50	+ 0.18	..
European	126.50	134.50	- 1.10	0.40
-do- Accum	133.50	141.40	- 1.20	0.40
Extra Income	359.80	382.60	- 0.10	3.85
-do- Accum	552.40	587.50	..	3.85
Financial	148.80	158.40†	+ 0.10	0.52
-do- Accum	157.50	168.00†	+ 0.10	0.52
Gilt Trust	65.11	67.13	- 0.07	5.97
-do- Accum	95.60	98.65	- 0.11	5.97
Health Fund Inc	216.50	231.30†	+ 5.10	..
-do- Accum	216.50	231.30†	+ 5.10	..
Income & Growth	206.60	219.80†	+ 0.20	3.59
-do- Accum	323.60	343.60†	+ 0.40	3.59
Intl Growth	404.80	432.80†	- 3.70	..
-do- Accum	448.50	479.90†	- 4.10	...
Japan & Gen	184.20	196.90	- 0.60	...
-do- Accum	186.00	198.30	- 0.50	...
Monthly Inc #	177.40	188.60†	- 0.10	3.86
Managed Port Inc	113.40	119.40	- 0.10	2.00
-do- Accum	121.90	128.30	- 0.10	2.00
Quarterly Income #	53.18	56.59†	+ 0.14	3.46
-do- Accum #	58.87	63.18†	+ 0.14	3.46
Recovery	348.60	372.70	- 2.00	0.89
-do- Accum	411.50	440.00	- 2.40	0.89
UK Growth	59.62	63.71	+ 0.18	2.45
-do- Accum	63.19	67.52	+ 0.19	2.45
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01705 881330 Enq 01705 881340				
FP American	56.84	59.61†	- 0.83	0.42
FP Am Smlr Cos	172.90	184.20	+ 0.20	..
FP Asian Growth	265.40	283.60†	+ 0.40	..
FP Australian	379.70	407.40	...	
FP Equity Dist	414.10	440.50†	- 0.20	2.60
-do- Accum	898.00	953.30†	- 0.50	2.60
FP Euro Gth	244.30	259.80	- 1.10	0.16
-do- Accum	265.50	282.40	- 1.10	0.16
FP Intl Bond	51.87	55.47	+ 0.02	4.62
FP Intl Gth Dist	35.75	38.16†	- 0.02	0.48
-do- Accum	52.22	55.73†	- 0.03	0.48
FP Pac Basin Acc	211.80	226.40†	+ 1.00	..
FP Income	54.65	58.50†	+ 0.03	5.11
-do- Accum	185.40	197.70	+ 0.10	5.11
FP Jap Smlr Cos	308.00	329.60	- 0.90	..
FP Monthly Dist	73.02	77.92†		5.12
FP Stlg Deposit	100.90	100.90		6.25
FP Tokyo	82.81	88.33	- 0.24	..
FP UK Focus	38.72	41.83	+ 0.04	2.64
FP UK Growth	185.00	197.30	+ 0.10	2.69
-do- Accum	363.20	387.40	+ 0.10	2.69
Stewardship Dist	369.30	392.80†	+ 0.70	1.94
-do- Accum	459.60	488.90†	+ 0.80	1.94
Stewardship Inc Dist	74.57	79.32	+ 0.03	4.78
-do- Accum	99.27	105.60	..	4.78
N Am Stshp Dist	117.40	124.80	- 0.40	0.93
-do- Accum	125.40	133.30	- 0.50	0.93
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	117.60	125.10†	+ 0.50	1.19
Open Cap Gth Acc	121.60	128.30†	...	0.05
Cap Gth Inc Inc	112.80	120.00	+ 0.40	2.41
Cap Gth Inc Acc	116.70	124.10	+ 0.40	2.41
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	118.40	123.80	+ 0.20	3.30
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	120.90	126.60	+ 0.20	3.30
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 166/7				
GAMDA	264.60	279.80†	...	2.30
Cash	48.52	50.26†		5.29
Growth Portfolio	83.76	88.79	..	0.92
Income Portfolio	68.51	70.33†	.	4.38
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	209.30	223.90	- 1.10	1.52
Dividend	93.97	100.50	- 0.30	4.75
Inv Gth & Inc	236.90	253.40	- 0.40	3.12
UK & Gen	48.15	51.50	- 0.26	2.54
Fund of Funds	70.25	75.13	+ 0.11	..
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	228.40	244.30	+ 0.70	..
European	604.10	644.60	+ 5.50	0.30
Euro Ex & Bd Inc	51.19	54.46	- 0.12	4.99
-do- Accum	55.62	59.28	- 0.13	4.65
Far East & Gen	268.10	284.60†	+ 0.20	..
Germany	121.60	128.20	- 0.80	..
High Yield #	50.17	53.03†	+ 0.03	8.01
-do- Accum #	52.70	55.70	+ 0.04	8.01
Income Inc	169.70	181.50	- 0.40	4.33
-do- Accum	187.10	200.20	- 0.50	4.33
International	358.10	383.00	+ 0.80	..
Intl Income	91.98	97.26†	+ 0.14	2.96
Japan & General	442.90	471.60	- 1.10	...
Korean Securities	67.36	72.05	- 0.72	...
Orient Acc	144.10	154.20	+ 2.00	0.22
Smlr Cos Div Inc	45.06	48.20	- 0.01	4.19
-do- Accum	49.76	53.22	- 0.01	4.19
UK Capital Inc	179.60	192.30	+ 0.59	1.49
UK Capital Acc	318.90	339.60	+ 0.80	1.49
UK Spec Sits	92.29	98.71	+ 0.21	1.31
US & General	177.80	189.70	+ 0.20	..
Wwide Spec Sits	155.00	165.70	- 0.40	...
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	58.16	59.92	+ 0.18	1.74
Cash Trust	141.44	141.44†	+ 0.01	6.18
Practical Inv Inc #	119.67	127.99	+ 0.05	2.68
-do- Accum #	288.84	300.36	+ 0.19	2.68
UK Index	166.59	187.43	+ 0.14	3.29
UK Smaller Cos	144.59	154.64	- 0.16	0.67
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.66	25.59	+ 0.01	7.82
High Income	33.90	36.22†	+ 0.03	5.25
UK Equity Income	148.24	158.55	+ 0.12	2.67
Global Bond	31.05	32.19	+ 0.01	5.03
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	43.59	46.52	+ 0.24	...
Global Managed	143.90	152.69	- 0.40	1.46
Gold & Intl Res	109.36	116.95	+ 0.24	..
Global Utilities	138.92	148.40†	- 0.18	1.48
Overseas Funds				
American	178.58	190.91	- 1.30	0.87
European	118.82	125.90	- 1.09	0.98
Euro Sel Opps	175.38	186.11	- 1.41	...
Amer Emerging	138.51	148.14†	- 1.46	...
Hong Kong	147.92	158.17	+ 0.22	2.07
Japan	250.44	265.89	- 0.71	..
Pacific Growth	218.80	234.01	- 0.16	..
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	235.43	235.43	+ 0.66	2.09
Long Term Bal	258.53	258.53	+ 0.69	3.09
Med Term Bal	217.42	217.42	+ 0.17	3.16
UK Equity	270.44	270.44†	+ 0.29	2.48
UK Emerging Cos	154.05	154.05†	- 0.04	2.01
American	297.64	297.64	- 1.31	1.09
Japan	132.33	132.33	+ 0.08	..
European	307.67	307.67	- 2.38	1.07
Index Linked Gilt	180.88	180.88†	- 0.92	2.65
Fixed Interest	172.42	172.42†	+ 0.07	6.39
Amer Emerging	321.83	321.83	- 3.17	..
Pacific	242.67	242.67†	- 0.12	0.66
Emerging Mkts	117.90	117.90	+ 0.51	0.98
Index Strat Japan	155.68	155.68	+ 0.06	0.19
-do- Pacific Rim	190.72	190.72	- 0.26	1.33
-do- Cont Europe	168.64	168.64	- 2.63	2.05
Index Strat USA	174.12	174.12	- 0.15	1.87
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	110.90	117.98	+ 0.03	...
Med Term Bal	103.40	110.00	+ 0.08	...
Long Term Bal	116.17	123.58	+ 0.04	...
UK Equity	125.14	133.13	+ 0.14	...
UK Emerging Cos	72.21	76.82	- 0.02	...
American	138.11	146.93	- 0.64	...
Japan	63.32	67.36	+ 0.04	...
European	127.86	136.03	- 1.85	..
Fixed Interest	87.72	93.31	+ 0.11	..
Index Linked Gilt	80.35	85.49	- 0.01	..
Deposit	84.00	89.36	...	..
Broker Unit Trusts				
SWH Intl	151.82	159.60	- 0.02	0.53
Brdlff Gth Port Inc	68.85	72.77	+ 0.04	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	60.15	63.48†	+ 0.10	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	57.91	61.12	- 0.02	0.10
Stew Utilities	63.65	67.18†	- 0.36	3.15
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	598.54	636.75	...	2.26
-do- Accum	665.79	708.19	...	2.26
European Inc	159.48	169.84	...	1.29
Amalgam Inc	158.69	166.00	...	...
N America Inc	359.56	382.51	...	0.60
Far East Inc	383.37	407.85	...	...
-do- Accum	397.06	422.41	...	...
UK Divid Inc	192.53	204.84	+ 5.48	3.85
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7866				
UK Equity Inc	97.32	104.07	- 0.43	4.35
UK Small Cos	59.36	63.48	+ 0.05	0.71
British Growth	65.88	70.45	- 0.25	2.44
American Gwth	245.05	262.08	- 0.48	...
Japan Gwth	66.81	71.44	- 0.23	...
Greater China	179.81	192.30	+ 0.21	0.56
Pacific Strategy	154.71	165.46	+ 0.75	0.55
European Gwth	96.88	103.33†	- 0.25	0.69
Intl Growth	158.65	169.67	- 2.36	...
US Index (R)	17.1472	18.0673	+ 0.0097	4.60
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	82.08	87.78	+ 0.09	2.13
Monthly Income	40.54	43.23†	- 0.08	8.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033				
Gvd UK Index (R)	13.5908	14.1362	- 0.0437	5.50
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	98.73	102.90	..	1.49
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 6688				
European	525.50	561.40†	- 3.70	0.50
Gilt & Fixed	133.80	141.80	+ 0.40	3.58
Growth Equity	382.70	408.80†	+ 0.20	1.40
Income Trust	144.80	154.60	- 0.20	3.26
International	201.60	215.70	- 0.30	0.15
Japan Trust	132.90	141.90	- 0.20	...
Nth American	330.80	353.40	- 1.40	...
Pacific	558.60	596.70	+ 2.30	0.05
[illegible]	579.90	619.50	- 0.20	1.48
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	107.39	111.47†	- 0.13	6.38
Global High Inc	183.32	197.25	+ 0.05	5.91
Corporate Bond	105.97	111.03	+ 0.03	6.13
Eqty & Bond Inc	109.28	116.17	+ 0.02	5.04
European Growth	113.84	120.83	- 1.18	...
Intl PEP Trust	66.76	70.97	+ 0.03	...
Equity Inc	130.19	138.43†	+ 2.15	4.65
-do- Accum	185.26	196.98	+ 3.06	4.05
Recovery	341.20	362.70†	+ 0.70	2.17
-do- Accum	399.90	425.10	+ 0.80	2.17
St Vinc High Inc	128.20	130.12	+ 3.55	6.74
UK Emerg Cos	265.90	283.78†	+ 0.80	1.93
UK Smlr Cos	361.89	388.50	+ 17.80	2.47
Glob Priv Tst	99.11	105.37	- 0.29	1.34
-do- Accum	100.96	107.34	- 0.29	1.34
Inc Share Tst	89.42	95.08†	- 0.17	7.02
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Growth	29.71	31.58	+ 0.06	1.88
Growth Acc	30.89	31.90	+ 0.08	1.88
Income	29.10	30.85†	+ 0.06	4.40
Income Acc	30.11	31.92	+ 0.07	4.40
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
Model Ptflo	223.50	235.00	- 0.20	2.57
Smaller Cos	34.05	36.22	+ 0.06	1.08
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT Enquiries: 01277 263 260 Dealing: 01277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	341.15	365.03	- 1.17	1.22
Best of British	67.54	71.79†	+ 0.27	2.80
UK Smaller Cos	137.90	148.24	- 0.11	1.55
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	288.45	308.24†	- 0.63	3.72
-do- Accum #	601.80	653.86	- 0.07	3.72
High Income	327.39	349.87†	- 0.14	4.43
Extra Income #	286.57	306.69†	+ 0.07	5.01
Pref & Bond	46.35	49.97†	..	8.30
International				
International	303.08	322.87	- 0.75	...
Global Bond	57.72	60.75†	+ 0.01	5.69
Intl Fxd Int	91.57	98.04†	+ 0.10	8.50
Global Tech	240.93	257.53†	- 2.61	..
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	176.46	188.70†	- 0.36	0.60
European	535.29	567.17†	- 4.97	0.48
European Income #	86.69	91.74	- 0.28	2.80

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Euro Smlr Cos	155.73	167.05	- 0.62	0.91
Eur Sp Sits	76.79	81.80	- 0.58	1.29
-do- Accum	82.26	87.63	- 0.62	1.29
Japan Trust	227.95	242.95	+ 0.23	
Japan Special Sits	221.05	235.71	- 1.47	...
Pacific Smlr Cos	231.91	248.14	- 0.72	..
North American	291.72	309.64	- 0.04	..
American Smaller	146.21	156.29	- 0.06	..
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	111.14	116.37†	+ 0.17	1.89
Capital	192.04	201.09	+ 0.01	1.36
Dollar	444.60	465.64	- 2.13	...
Enterprise Gth	369.79	387.22	+ 0.81	1.49
European	252.96	264.89	- 2.12	0.49
Far East	313.63	328.41†	- 0.05	...
Financial	961.06	£10.06	- 0.59	1.60
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.49	27.54	+ 0.03	6.68
High Yield	106.92	111.60†	+ 0.27	3.89
Income & Growth	153.53	160.77†	+ 0.45	3.16
International	283.06	296.39	- 0.80	..
Japanese General	217.47	227.72†	- 0.61	...
Japan Tech	94.91	99.38	- 0.45	...
Mnl Resources	81.05	84.87	- 0.04	..
Portfolio	80.09	83.86	- 0.02	1.33
Smaller Cos	141.29	147.95	- 0.18	0.89
Special Sits	176.89	185.02	+ 1.00	0.85
UK Emerging Cos	105.59	110.56	.	0.90
US Smaller Cos	126.59	132.55	- 0.38	..
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers: 0800 181 890 Investors: 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	109.35	116.69†	+ 0.10	5.82
Capital	662.60	702.10	+ 1.10	2.18
Income #	611.40	652.50	+ 1.00	5.76
Footsie Fund	60.60	60.80†	+ 0.08	2.94
Trade Index	113.30	119.90	+ 0.10	2.35
UK Index	156.00	165.10	+ 0.20	3.22
International Funds				
American Growth	575.80	612.10	+ 1.50	0.45
American Index	260.80	276.00	- 0.30	1.22
European Growth	125.50	133.90	- 0.80	0.16
Eurotrack 100	181.70	192.30	- 1.10	1.01
Global Bond	23.39	24.67	- 0.01	5.06
Japan Growth	289.80	308.30	- 0.60	..
Japan Index	80.65	86.52	+ 0.07	0.18
Japan Smlr Cos	31.73	33.86	+ 0.16	.
Far Eastern Funds				
Asian	61.31	65.43	- 0.06	0.17
Hong Kong Gwth	118.50	126.50	+ 0.40	1.26
Spore & Mlysn Gth	79.09	84.41	+ 0.97	..
Tiger Index	203.00	214.80	...	0.44
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	41.44	43.08	- 0.04	0.58
General Funds				
Managed	81.45	84.67†	- 0.09	1.38
[illegible]	94.82	98.57	+ 0.30	2.19
UK Growth	65.74	68.34†	+ 0.20	2.13
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc	85.67	89.05	+ 0.19	6.56
Gilt & Fxd Int	27.53	28.51	+ 0.04	7.71
UK Inc & Gwth	43.99	45.73†	+ 0.10	3.48
UK Income	342.90	356.40†	+ 0.70	4.57
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	58.41	61.81	- 0.23	0.35
Amer Smlr Cos	142.60	148.20	+ 0.90	..
-do- Accum	144.10	149.80	+ 0.90	...
Europe Gth	184.80	191.70	- 1.40	..
-do- Accum	191.50	198.60	- 1.40	..
Euro Smaller Cos	34.41	35.77	+ 0.04	..
French Growth	82.11	85.31	- 1.26	0.33
-do- Accum	88.08	91.52	- 1.38	0.33
H Kong & China	85.81	89.20	+ 0.38	1.40
Intl Growth	64.02	66.55†	- 0.03	0.41
-do- Accum	64.91	67.47†	- 0.04	0.41
Japan Gth	33.94	35.28	- 0.03	..
-do- Accum	33.94	35.28	- 0.03	..
Japan Smaller Cos	39.77	41.34	- 0.09	..
Glob Emg Mkts	93.75	97.45	+ 0.25	..
-do- Accum	94.42	98.15	+ 0.25	...
SE Asia	332.50	345.60	+ 0.90	0.03
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	57.05	58.79†	- 0.04	5.85
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 261010				
Slater Value Inc	97.71	103.10	- 0.10	4.85
Slater Value Gwth	98.47	103.80	- 0.10	1.93
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
World Health	193.80	205.20	- 1.80	..
Income	186.81	198.73	+ 0.05	3.07
UK Growth	73.34	78.81	- 0.05	0.45
International	80.95	86.10	- 0.75	0.07
Ecology	91.55	97.38	+ 0.18	1.10
European	144.37	153.59	+ 0.06	.
Far Eastern	302.90	322.10	- 1.00	..
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	100.80	104.20†	...	7.38
Gilt Yield	119.70	126.30†	+ 0.30	6.73



	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Global Income	222.40	236.60†	+ 0.20	3.65
High Yield	146.30	155.60	+ 1.30	5.74
-do- Accum	461.80	491.30	+ 4.50	5.74
Smlr Cos Div	55.27	58.80†	- 0.04	2.91
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	127.90	136.10	- 0.90	..
Asian Growth	325.40	346.20	...	0.24
-do- Accum	382.40	406.80	...	0.24
North American	99.02	105.30†	- 0.17	0.25
European Special	114.00	121.30	- 1.40	0.10
European	162.80	173.20†	- 1.60	0.47
-do- Accum	214.70	228.40†	- 2.00	0.47
Global Eqty Inc	114.60	121.90	..	2.11
Japan	426.20	458.50	+ 0.40	...
Japanese Special	231.40	246.20	+ 0.10	...
Smaller Cos	123.00	130.90†	..	1.17
UK Equity Growth	44.19	47.01	+ 0.11	1.57
UK Index Inc	310.50	312.10†	+ 0.50	3.48
Birchase Tst	101.40	109.40	+ 0.80	2.74
-do- Accum	101.40	109.40	+ 0.80	2.74
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	277.66	295.38†	...	5.24
Inc & Growth Inc	59.85	63.45	..	4.30
Smaller Cos	70.48	74.98	..	1.35
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enq: 01452 371 500 Dlg: 01452 371 823				
Growth Trust	271.50	288.80†	+ 0.30	1.66
High Income	112.50	119.60	+ 0.30	4.35
International	108.20	115.10	- 0.50	0.52
European Trust	81.98	87.19	- 0.10	0.87
Japanese Trust	43.85	46.65	- 0.09	..
American Trust	107.50	114.30	- 0.30	..
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01277 660 432				
UK Cap	410.20	435.20	+ 0.30	2.35
UK Inc/Gth	442.10	469.10	+ 0.80	2.98
UK Income	304.30	322.90†	+ 0.50	3.72
UK Sm Cos	261.90	288.10	+ 0.40	1.76
Euro Gwth	144.00	152.70	- 0.90	...
N Amer Gwth	114.40	121.40	+ 0.40	0.26
Japan Growth	68.14	72.30	+ 0.14	..
Money Mkt	128.551	128.551	+ 0.302	0.000
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 308 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	536.60	570.80	+ 0.50	2.81
-do- Accum	£10.83	£11.52	+ 1.00	2.81
Equity Income #	104.00	110.60	+ 0.30	4.37
UK Tactical Allocte	62.68	66.59†	+ 0.02	4.13
European	130.80	138.90	- 0.90	1.55
Far Eastern	222.20	237.40	- 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	53.81	57.24†	+ 0.03	7.06
Gilt	92.04	97.80	+ 0.02	6.28
Global Growth	78.88	83.91†	- 0.04	0.36
Intl Bond	55.26	59.72	- 0.01	5.27
Japanese	74.76	79.55†	- 0.36	..
North American	190.40	202.60	+ 0.30	0.60
Pacific Growth	111.40	118.80	+ 0.20	0.24
UK Index	70.42	73.95	+ 0.06	3.08
UK Recovery	104.20	111.00†	...	1.97
UK Smaller Cos	139.60	148.50	...	1.43
US Index	77.29	81.57†	- 0.03	1.39
European Index	83.93	88.48	- 0.60	2.18
Japan Index	42.87	45.25	- 0.04	...
Worldwide	91.42	97.25†	- 0.04	1.44
LINCOLN NATIONAL 0181 982 6876 Dealing: 0800 262 621				
Growth	53.37	57.07	+ 0.35	2.15
Income	63.07	67.45	+ 0.51	2.89
Far East	54.93	58.74	+ 0.04	...
North American	126.40	135.00	- 1.20	...
Global	105.50	112.80	- 0.50	0.19
European	92.66	99.08	- 0.41	0.65
Japan	107.70	115.70	- 0.38	...
Intl Currency Bd	62.86	65.63	- 0.03	4.19
SE Asia	104.80	111.80	+ 0.30	...
UK Cap Growth	97.43	104.20	+ 0.10	1.69
Recovery Trust	71.55	76.11†	+ 0.44	1.46
Managed	72.54	77.17	+ 1.40	0.83
Cash	51.37	51.43	+ 0.01	5.14
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	375.20	399.20	- 0.10	2.75
-do- Accum	875.70	931.70	- 0.30	2.75
Contl Euro Gth	71.24	74.99†	- 0.60	1.22
-do- Accum	76.66	80.70	- 0.65	1.22
Extra Inc	270.80	287.90†	- 0.10	4.17
-do- Accum	727.80	774.30	- 0.20	4.17
FTSE 100 Inc	112.70	119.30	- 0.10	2.61
FTSE 100 Acc	114.70	122.10	- 0.10	2.61
German Gth	135.90	143.10	- 0.10	...
-do- Accum	142.50	150.10	- 0.10	...
Growth Port	604.70	643.30	- 0.30	0.10
-do- Accum	622.60	662.40	- 0.20	0.10
High Interest Inc	99.10	102.70†	+ 0.10	7.76
High Interest Acc	100.10	103.80	+ 0.10	7.76
HI Reserve Inc #	105.00	111.80†	+ 0.10	6.69
HI Reserve Acc #	109.30	116.30	+ 0.10	6.69
Income	521.70	555.10	- 0.90	3.59
-do- Accum	£14.45	£15.39	- 3.00	3.59
Income Port	546.00	580.90	+ 4.50	4.47
-do- Accum	595.00	633.00	+ 5.40	4.47
Japan Growth	114.30	121.70	+ 0.90	...

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	114.70	122.10	+ 0.90	..
Master Trust	63.35	67.40	..	1.22
-do- Accum	71.97	76.57	- 0.01	1.22
N American Gen	230.80	245.80	+ 0.50	0.62
-do- Accum	266.30	283.30	+ 0.60	0.62
NAm Sm Co Rec	177.50	188.90	+ 0.40	...
-do- Accum	181.20	192.80	+ 0.40	...
Pacific Basin	263.40	280.30	- 4.50	0.19
-do- Accum	279.90	297.80	- 4.80	0.19
Small Cos Rec	424.20	447.10	+ 0.10	1.81
-do- Accum	578.40	608.90	+ 0.20	1.81
UK Eq Gth	149.80	159.50	+ 0.10	2.91
UK Eq Inc	120.60	128.60	- 1.60	4.25
UK Growth	95.42	101.60	- 1.20	2.11
-do- Accum	117.50	125.00	- 1.50	2.11
Worldwide Gth	348.90	369.10†	+ 0.10	..
-do- Accum	512.50	545.30	+ 0.10	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	82.02	87.81	+ 0.13	0.40
General	98.66	105.85	- 0.12	2.40
Income	68.63	73.63	- 0.21	5.40
International	71.57	76.89	+ 0.03	0.40
Japan	60.82	65.25	- 0.06	..
Tst of Inv Trusts	71.72	76.85	.	1.40
M & G SECURITIES Cust Secs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	486.40	516.50	+ 0.10	0.39
-do- Accum	608.70	644.80	+ 0.20	0.39
Amer Recovery	535.40	568.20†	- 3.50	0.52
-do- Accum	616.60	652.40†	- 4.00	0.52
Asian Smlr Cos	152.30	161.10	- 0.50	...
-do- Accum	155.60	164.60	- 0.50	...
Australasian	171.40	181.30	+ 1.70	2.44
-do- Accum	211.50	228.80	+ 2.10	2.44
Capital	896.30	948.50	- 2.10	2.95
-do- Accum	1040.20	1100.00	- 2.50	2.95
Charifund	719.70	726.98†	- 1.40	5.94
-do- Accum	3537.70	3573.10†	- 6.90	5.94
Commodity	436.60	461.70	+ 0.80	0.38
-do- Accum	643.10	679.90	+ 1.10	0.38
Compound Gth	1025.70	1084.70	- 2.70	2.96
-do- Accum	1103.50	1167.10	- 2.90	2.96
Dividend	42.80	45.30†	.	4.42
-do- Accum	189.40	197.40†	.	4.42
Equity Income	335.00	354.30	+ 0.60	5.13
-do- Accum	444.50	470.20	+ 0.80	5.13
Euro & General	543.80	575.10	- 2.50	1.38
-do- Accum	693.10	733.00	- 3.60	1.38
Euro Dividend	76.40	80.80	- 0.10	3.79
-do- Accum	94.10	99.60	- 0.10	3.79
Extra Yield	435.80	460.90	- 0.90	4.86
-do- Accum	1411.50	1492.80	- 3.00	4.86
Far Eastern	362.60	383.40	+ 0.80	0.42
-do- Accum	483.60	511.40	+ 1.10	0.42
Fund of Inv Tsts	665.00	703.20†	..	1.97
-do- Accum	1263.40	1336.10†	+ 0.10	1.97
General	65.60	69.40	- 0.20	3.79
-do- Accum	187.10	198.10	- 0.50	3.79
Gilt Income	62.57	62.65†	+ 0.03	6.80
-do- Accum	181.50	181.84†	+ 0.06	6.80
Gold	67.80	71.70	+ 0.30	0.71
-do- Accum	80.40	85.00	+ 0.40	0.71
High Income	30.60	32.40†	- 0.10	4.92
-do- Accum	127.90	135.70†	- 0.30	4.92
Intl Growth	85.90	90.80	- 0.30	0.90
-do- Accum	151.00	159.60	- 0.60	0.90
International Inc	106.00	112.10	+ 0.10	3.99
-do- Accum	163.80	173.40	+ 0.20	3.99
Japan & Gen	43.70	46.20†	..	..
-do- Accum	46.90	49.60†	..	..
Japan Smlr Cos	149.30	157.90	- 0.20	..
-do- Accum	150.30	159.00	- 0.20	..
Managed Gwth	25.30	26.70	- 0.10	1.79
Managed Income	28.80	30.20†	.	4.32
Midland	58.70	62.10	- 0.10	3.71
-do- Accum	201.60	213.30	- 0.50	3.71
Pension Ex	1001.20	1026.30	- 1.30	4.33
Recovery	45.20	47.80	- 0.20	2.69
-do- Accum	75.20	79.70	- 0.20	2.69
Second General	72.10	76.20	- 0.40	3.69
-do- Accum	189.60	200.40	- 0.90	3.69
Smaller Cos	69.90	73.90	- 0.20	3.32
-do- Accum	141.00	149.10	- 0.50	3.32
Sterling Hi Int	25.66	25.95	+ 0.02	7.20
Treasury	25.10	25.15†		6.33
Trustee	41.40	43.80	- 0.10	4.58
-do- Accum	173.40	183.30	- 0.50	4.58
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 018 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	88.38	94.02	- 0.82	1.37
Intl Bond	67.86	71.30†	- 0.03	5.59
Intl Equity Growth	80.83	85.88†	- 0.27	0.60
N Amer Growth	124.95	132.71	+ 0.32	0.74
Special Sits Growth	24.09	25.62	- 0.01	2.20
UK Growth	416.87	442.52	- 0.08	2.71
-do- Accum	557.54	593.12	- 0.11	2.71
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1423.50	1444.60†	..	3.00
Income #	1640.90	1657.90	..	4.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	158.10	162.20	...	3.72
For Manulife see Canada Life				
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 01244 680 066				
M & S Inv Ptflo	168.30	177.10	...	2.13
-do- Accum	195.80	206.10	...	2.13
UK Sel Ptflo	145.00	152.70†	+ 0.13	2.50
-do- Accum	172.40	181.50†	+ 0.13	2.50
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	74.14	78.88	...	3.60
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	78.19	83.00†		4.18
European	92.57	98.38	- 0.06	1.18
Income #	78.75	83.69†	- 0.04	4.27
Nth American	82.83	87.93	- 0.13	0.42
Far East	170.90	181.40	- 0.20	0.05
Japan	61.68	65.48	- 0.17	...
Emrging Mkts	84.71	90.60	+ 0.33	0.02
Intl Growth	122.40	129.80	+ 0.10	0.56
UK Growth	106.40	113.00†	...	1.63
UK Smlr Co	52.14	55.85†	+ 0.06	1.34
Asian Opps Fd	37.60	40.11	+ 0.02	0.44
Glob Gwth PEP	56.66	60.16	+ 0.03	0.47
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	96.92	104.26	- 0.01	.
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	451.61	479.88	..	3.70
Global Inc	75.65	80.49	...	3.47
Brit Leaders	385.65	410.28	..	1.71
Intl Leaders	220.55	234.63	..	1.33
PAM Mg Bal Gth	66.62	71.20	..	0.73
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0171 280 2060				
American	245.20	260.50†	+ 0.660	...
-do- Accum	263.30	278.50†	+ 0.700	...
American Opps	111.70	119.10	- 0.50	...
-do- Accum	113.10	120.60	- 0.50	...
British Blue Chip	88.60	94.45	- 0.08	2.54
-do- Accum	112.50	119.40	- 0.10	2.54
Cash	100.00	100.00	+ 0.180	6.44
-do- Accum	143.10	143.10	...	6.44
Emerging Mkts	107.40	115.50	...	0.12
-do- Accum	108.10	116.30	...	0.12
European Growth	267.80	284.50	- 2.00	0.16
-do- Accum	289.60	308.80	- 2.20	0.16
European Income	89.70	94.80	- 0.41	3.03
-do- Accum	124.60	131.70	- 0.70	3.03
General	557.70	593.90	- 1.10	2.09
-do- Accum	1113.80	1186.00	- 1.00	2.09
Global Bond	134.40	141.20	- 0.10	5.22
-do- Accum	169.40	177.90	- 0.10	5.22
Gold & General	219.20	235.70	+ 0.400	0.38
-do- Accum	226.30	243.30	+ 0.400	0.38
Govt Securities	93.68	95.59†	- 0.06	6.00
-do- Accum	191.50	197.50†	- 0.10	6.00
High Yield Bd	101.80	105.40†	+ 0.100	6.67
-do- Accum	103.30	106.80†		6.67
Income	170.80	181.30†	- 0.30	4.25
-do- Accum	274.70	292.00†	- 0.40	4.25
Inc Portfolio #	106.80	112.90	- 0.10	4.85
-do- Accum #	111.30	118.00	- 0.10	4.85
Intl Opps	499.80	539.10†	+ 0.900	0.17
-do- Accum	672.60	717.40†	+ 1.200	0.17
Japan	177.30	187.70	+ 0.500	...
-do- Accum	182.00	192.70	+ 0.500	...
New Europe	197.00	210.10	- 1.00	0.96
-do- Accum	203.10	216.60	- 1.00	0.96
Pacific	115.50	123.20	+ 0.600	0.83
-do- Accum	124.00	132.30	+ 0.700	0.83
Recovery	349.90	371.20†		0.70
-do- Accum	451.20	481.40†		0.70
UK Smaller Cos	57.05	60.85	- 0.08	0.85
-do- Accum	65.13	69.47	- 0.08	0.85
Portfolio	88.82	94.20	- 0.09	2.45
-do- Accum	107.00	113.60	- 0.10	2.45
Managed Gth	106.30	113.30†	- 0.10	1.51
Managed Inc	112.50	116.80†	- 0.10	3.85
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 233				
Europegrowth Plus	126.30	134.36	- 0.87	0.18
Portfolio	73.86	78.68	- 0.01	1.58
UK Income Inc	83.88	88.23	- 0.22	4.88
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 129				
Balanced	65.24	69.31	+ 0.08	2.82
-do- Accum	70.71	74.04	+ 0.10	2.82
British Tst	97.55	102.10	+ 0.10	2.81
-do- Accum	114.50	119.80	+ 0.20	2.81
Extra High Inc	70.23	73.54	+ 0.20	6.43
-do- Accum	141.90	148.50	+ 0.40	6.43
FT-SE 100 Acc	63.65	68.02	+ 0.08	2.51
FT-SE 100 Dist	61.16	64.04	+ 0.08	2.51
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.54	58.83†	+ 0.03	8.60
-do- Accum	172.50	179.40†	..	8.60
High Yield	220.80	230.80†	- 2.30	5.88
-do- Accum	604.70	633.10†	- 6.20	5.88
Income	304.10	318.40	+ 0.70	4.20
-do- Accum	683.90	716.10	+ 1.70	4.20
Money Market UT	48.41	48.41†	...	5.64
-do- Accum	80.21	80.21†	...	5.64
Monthly Income	90.14	94.39†	+ 0.16	4.86
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	119.80	127.26	+ 0.18	1.54
European Growth	116.80	123.80	+ 0.30	0.62
Gilt & Fixed	95.22	101.00	+ 0.10	5.49
Income	93.19	98.14	+ 0.15	2.58

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Growth	52.23	56.37	- 0.18	
Managed	77.38	82.33	+ 0.05	2.13
Money Market	93.97	98.32	...	4.17
North American	106.10	112.40	- 1.00	0.40
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	108.50	115.40	+ 0.10	1.53
European Growth	109.70	116.30	+ 0.20	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	90.25	95.72	+ 0.05	5.49
Income	91.40	97.23	+ 0.14	2.64
Japan Growth	51.96	55.18	- 0.18	...
Managed	73.97	78.69	+ 0.05	2.11
Money Market	83.85	88.88	...	4.13
North American	95.84	101.60	- 0.80	0.48
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	108.10	115.00	...	1.53
European Growth	107.10	113.80	+ 0.30	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	82.94	87.97	+ 0.05	5.61
Income	89.77	95.50	+ 0.14	2.68
Japan Growth	53.17	56.35	- 0.18	..
Managed	76.78	81.68	+ 0.05	2.12
Money Market	77.90	82.56	...	4.22
North American	107.20	113.60	- 0.90	0.37
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	14.10	14.95	...	.
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	438.80	465.40	- 2.50	..
European Gth Inc	587.40	630.30†	- 4.60	...
-do- Accum	593.80	637.10†	- 4.70	...
Intl Gwth	222.00	236.00†	- 0.33	..
UK Equity Inc	205.10	218.00	+ 0.50	2.93
Do. Accum	271.50	288.50	+ 0.70	2.93
UK Ind Tndr Inc	179.80	191.00	+ 0.10	2.63
-do- Accum	215.10	229.80	+ 0.10	2.63
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	256.70	272.00	- 0.40	1.00
Japan Tracker	78.50	83.22†	- 0.02	...
Asian Trader	215.00	232.00	..	0.29
Managed Inc	172.30	184.10†	.	2.10
Deposit Inc	99.82	99.82†	+ 0.01	6.21
Europa	263.90	284.50	- 0.50	...
Genesis	179.90	195.00†	.	1.53
High Income	21.61	22.94	+ 0.06	10.09
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 933				
Acumen	103.50	105.60	..	2.31
Acumen Inc	95.75	97.89	- 0.04	2.31
Acumen Reserve	92.17	93.09	+ 0.05	7.96
-do- Inc	75.54	76.29	+ 0.78	7.96
American Growth	82.27	84.57	+ 0.15	
Cash Income	49.76	49.78†	+ 0.01	6.12
Equity Income #	98.76	101.40†	.	4.77
European	75.87	77.33	- 0.75	0.25
Smaller Cos	83.24	87.35†	- 0.13	1.36
W'wide Eqty	71.43	73.29	- 0.01	0.32
Global Bond	46.84	47.37†	.	6.39
UK Growth	104.00	108.70	+ 0.10	2.01
Pacific Growth	113.00	117.20	+ 0.60	0.79
Japan Growth	105.70	108.50	- 0.40	.
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 018				
Avon Equity	137.84	146.43	+ 0.18	2.46
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 0161 237 5322				
UK Growth	82.53	87.80	+ 0.15	2.15
UK Income	115.66	123.04†	- 0.78	3.34
Higher Income	218.30	232.23	- 4.54	5.23
Smaller Cos	90.21	95.97	+ 0.11	1.87
International	106.19	112.97†	- 0.12	1.56
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	123.20	131.10†	- 0.50	0.30
European Dist	129.50	137.60†	- 1.10	0.20
Far East Dist	192.00	204.30	+ 0.10	..
Global Care Dist	81.39	86.59†	- 0.14	0.57
Oseas Dist	1132.70	1205.00	- 4.50	0.01
-do- Accum	1479.20	1564.00	- 5.80	0.01
UK Dist	389.00	413.80†	+ 0.70	2.55
-do- Accum	780.40	830.20	+ 1.50	2.55
UK Extra Inc Dist	86.71	92.24	- 0.15	3.54
Wwide Dist	116.70	124.10	- 0.60	0.30
Wwide Inc Dist	79.41	84.48	- 0.19	2.29
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS Dlg: 01277 690 290 Admin Enq: 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	69.41	73.26	- 0.44	1.09
Fund of Funds Inc	64.63	68.21	- 0.02	2.20
North America Inc	64.37	67.94	+ 0.07	..
UK Equity Gth Inc	64.18	67.69†	+ 0.09	2.54
-do- Accum	68.08	71.85	+ 0.10	2.54
UK General Inc	63.09	66.59	+ 0.13	2.76
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.97	51.58	- 0.03	7.02
UK Income Inc	61.85	65.28†	+ 0.14	3.45
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0500 550 000 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American Tst	45.74	48.68	..	...
-do- Accum	46.10	49.04	..	...
Bond	126.77	134.56	- 0.13	5.80
Bridge Fund	92.98	98.91	.	2.16
Cash Income	50.18	50.18†	..	5.90
-do- Accum	66.67	66.67†	..	5.90
Distributor	99.20	105.53†	+ 0.10	3.29
European	47.73	50.78	- 0.34	..
Foundation	101.75	108.24	+ 0.02	2.39
General	207.50	220.74	- 0.34	1.59
Global	354.59	377.22	- 0.27	0.18
Growth	134.59	143.18	+ 0.40	2.54
Higher Income Inc	30.71	32.67	..	4.50
-do- Accum	35.90	38.19	..	4.50
Income	254.39	270.63†	+ 0.01	3.12
Intragold	135.38	141.92†	..	1.92
Japan	26.47	28.16	+ 0.08	..
Managed Est Inc	52.99	56.87	+ 0.01	2.06
-do- Accum	56.49	60.41	+ 0.02	2.06
Oriental Inc	154.17	164.01	+ 0.67	0.22
-do- Accum	158.09	169.24	+ 0.69	0.22
Pers Int Gwth	34.32	36.51	+ 0.09	0.40
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	92.11	97.81	- 0.02	1.56
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2505				
Managed	106.50	112.70	- 0.50	2.27
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	134.43	141.50	+ 0.01	1.28
UK Equity	154.45	162.58	+ 0.34	3.01
UK Equity Income	140.62	148.02†	+ 0.27	3.45
UK Smaller Cos	124.34	130.88	+ 0.12	1.69
UK Equity Growth	145.42	153.07	+ 0.43	2.26
UK Index Trckg	156.78	165.03	+ 0.28	3.49
Intl Index Trckg	166.68	175.45	- 0.20	0.96
International	264.57	278.50†	- 0.52	0.65
European	224.90	236.74	- 1.14	0.19
Pan European	149.21	157.06†	- 0.44	1.29
Nth American	219.43	230.98†	- 0.18	0.11
N Amer Smlr Cos	231.22	243.39	+ 0.17	...
Japanese	95.45	100.47†	- 0.11	
Pacific	241.01	253.70†	- 0.15	0.61
South East Asian	266.17	280.18	- 0.29	0.84
Intl Bond	144.46	152.06	- 0.03	4.71
Gilt & Convertible	111.70	117.58	+ 0.07	5.69
Property	77.31	81.38†	+ 0.15	6.95
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01296 769 888				
European Inc	254.40	272.60	- 2.50	0.42
-do- Accum	269.20	288.50	- 2.60	0.42
Japan Inc	108.60	115.90	+ 0.20	..
Nth American Inc	121.80	130.50	- 0.70	0.21
Worldwide Inc	168.10	180.50	- 0.30	0.89
Hong Kong Inc	153.10	164.20	..	1.55
Swiss Equities Inc	85.36	91.20	- 0.12	0.11
Wwide Bond Inc	67.46	71.37	+ 0.03	4.92
Emging Asia Inc	208.40	226.40†	- 0.80	0.14
-do- Accum	209.20	227.20	- 0.80	0.14
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.27	50.27†	+ 0.01	6.41
Thailand Inc	161.90	176.20†	- 1.30	1.28
New Zealand Inc	95.22	102.10	+ 0.10	1.83
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	66.69	71.53	+ 0.04	1.41
Latin Am Crp Inc	58.11	60.81	+ 0.24	0.31
UK All Sh Idx Inc	65.82	70.57	+ 0.07	2.44
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	85.66	91.83	- 0.08	..
Global Portfolio	76.73	82.06	- 0.06	..
Global Opps	68.78	73.56	- 0.20	..
Marsp Global Gth	66.96	71.01	+ 1.49	...
AAM Global Equity	55.91	59.26	+ 0.02	2.13
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	102.80	110.10	+ 0.30	...
Temple Equity Inc	45.52	49.62	- 0.09	2.26
Hartley Growth	95.82	103.00	- 0.30	...
Intl Growth Inc	90.87	96.33	- 0.03	1.01
IPS Portfolio Inc	89.52	95.74	+ 1.59	..
Premier Ptnshp Inc	70.33	75.22	+ 0.02	1.74
Roxburgh Smit Gth	78.41	81.72	+ 0.09	0.47
Slater Gwth	116.80	124.40	- 0.40	..
International Stnt	80.79	86.41	- 0.01	..
UFC Ind-Acl Gth	80.12	84.30	+ 0.69	..
Cavendish Topout	52.46	56.88	+ 0.09	...
Pram Equity Inc	113.80	124.40	..	...
Lowes Intl Growth	51.85	54.68	- 0.02	...
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 829 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	255.70	271.90†	- 4.10	2.61
-do- Accum	552.40	587.60	- 8.90	2.61
Growth	169.60	178.50	- 0.20	2.83
Income	249.80	265.70	- 4.00	3.77
Intl Equity	277.10	294.80	- 0.30	0.72
-do- Accum	308.50	328.20	- 0.30	0.72
UK Income	70.40	74.69	- 0.07	3.21
UK Inl 25	87.31	92.87	- 0.03	2.03
New Europe	88.21	93.83	- 0.58	0.35
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	671.70	718.40	- 0.30	0.35
-do- Accum	674.34	721.22	- 0.30	0.35
Income	408.75	435.08	+ 0.49	3.03
Wwide Recovery	433.46	463.60	- 0.33	0.43
Amer Growth Inc	281.69	300.61	- 0.84	0.01
-do- Accum	281.69	300.61	- 0.84	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	266.80	285.35	- 0.25	0.13
Far Esn Gth Inc	295.65	316.21†	+ 0.70	0.50
-do- Accum	296.99	317.64	+ 0.70	0.50
Euro Gth Inc	166.04	177.59†	- 0.27	0.10
-do- Accum	166.59	178.18	- 0.26	0.10
UK Growth Inc	106.04	113.42	+ 0.14	2.55
-do- Accum	111.58	119.32	+ 0.14	2.55
High Income	108.45	115.99	+ 0.15	3.88
Jap Gwth Inc	221.98	236.78	+ 0.39	0.81
-do- Accum	221.98	236.76	+ 0.39	0.81
PEP Growth	134.98	144.38	- 0.29	0.77
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	126.86	135.68	+ 0.03	0.44
-do- Accum	126.86	135.68	+ 0.03	0.44
Amer Smlr Co Inc	176.90	189.20†	+ 0.56	0.01
-do- Accum	178.90	189.20	+ 0.58	0.01
Global Bond	58.36	61.47	- 0.03	5.97
UK Smaller Cos Inc	95.35	101.98	- 0.20	1.59
-do- Accum	100.31	107.28	- 0.22	1.50
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0181 201 3987				
American	122.50	130.42†	+ 0.45	...
European	81.55	86.49	+ 0.93	..
Global	67.39	71.69†	+ 0.20	..
Pacific	60.88	64.77	+ 0.01	...
UK Inc & Gth	71.37	75.93	+ 0.21	2.19
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Fund of Funds	180.49	190.99	+ 0.45	0.62
Emerg Mkts	44.72	47.32	+ 0.07	1.10
High Income #	53.65	56.77†	+ 0.04	5.72
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	158.43	168.42	+ 0.34	1.91
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	113.00	120.20	- 0.10	3.14
Conv & Gilt	114.60	121.90†	+ 2.80	6.01
European Income	78.91	83.65	- 0.39	3.29
Extra Income	170.50	181.40†	+ 0.10	5.25
-do- Accum	214.60	228.30	+ 0.20	5.25
Far East	404.40	430.20	+ 0.50	0.24
-do- Accum	412.90	439.30	+ 0.60	0.24
Global Income	26.91	28.60	- 0.01	5.12
High Income	127.10	135.30	+ 0.10	4.26
-do- Accum	157.10	167.10	+ 0.10	4.26
International	206.50	219.80	+ 0.10	0.71
-do- Accum	213.90	227.50	+ 0.10	0.71
Pref & Fxd Int	44.41	47.24	+ 0.02	7.20
Recovery	76.68	81.59	+ 0.10	2.56

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	121.60	129.30†	...	1.59
-do- Accum	133.80	142.40	...	1.59
Technology	657.50	699.50	- 4.90	...
UK Blue Chip	78.24	83.24	+ 0.21	3.21
-do- Accum	89.30	95.00	+ 0.24	3.21
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 588 3903				
Equity Gth	224.20	238.50	- 0.30	1.51
European Gth	116.40	123.70	- 0.40	0.93
Income & Gth #	149.90	159.50	- 0.10	3.21
Japan Gth	119.60	127.20	- 0.30	..
Nth Amer Gth	198.20	210.80	- 0.80	0.08
Overseas Gth	115.30	122.70	...	0.27
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0181 478 3377 Client Enq: 0171 911 4490				
Managed Tst	42.10	43.62	- 0.01	1.70
Cash Haven Inc	101.23	101.72†	+ 0.01	5.70
Cash Haven Acc	115.17	115.73†	+ 0.01	5.70
Dist Trust Inc	103.54	107.29	- 0.04	8.03
Dist Trust Acc	112.03	116.09	- 0.08	8.03
Global Growth	99.51	105.86	- 0.64	1.40
Equity Inc	88.74	92.57†	+ 0.06	3.16
Equity	822.68	875.16	+ 1.00	2.18
European	236.36	247.00†	- 1.32	0.34
High Income	90.44	96.21†	- 0.05	4.98
Intl Gth	208.50	222.06	- 0.31	0.85
Intl Sm Co	88.90	94.57	- 0.20	0.45
Japanese	224.82	232.45	+ 0.13	...
Nth Amer	220.28	228.28†	- 0.57	1.08
Pacific Mkts	115.57	119.78	+ 0.20	0.27
Premier Inc	49.51	51.53	- 0.01	6.40
Sm Cos	100.70	107.12	- 0.11	1.42
Spec Sits	118.82	126.51	+ 0.31	2.56
UK Growth	137.43	146.20	+ 0.30	2.11
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	325.20	345.20	+ 0.20	3.17
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
FA America (Inc)	628.22	668.97	- 1.58	0.59
FA America (Acc)	735.86	782.37	- 1.84	0.59
FA UK Equity Inc	167.13	178.58†	- 0.40	3.56
FA Japan	255.58	271.99	- 0.29	..
FA Major UK Cos	104.56	111.40†	- 0.15	2.25
FA Smlr UK Cos	329.06	357.95	- 0.44	1.25
FA European	356.74	379.09	- 1.91	0.54
FA Amer Smlr Cos	56.80	60.85	- 0.07	0.06
FA Asia	52.50	56.40	+ 0.03	0.06
FA Jap Smlr Cos	43.41	46.43	- 0.01	...
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	109.33	115.08	- 0.15	..
UK Smlr Cos	96.09	101.14	- 0.12	..
UK Income	106.95	112.57	- 0.25	..
America	126.77	133.43	- 0.31	..
Japanese	56.46	59.42	- 0.07	..
European	115.01	121.05	- 0.33	..
Gilt	97.28	102.39	- 0.06	..
Deposit	87.16	91.74	+ 0.02	.
Managed	109.30	115.04	- 0.07	..
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	106.33	111.92	- 0.16	..
UK Smaller Cos	93.72	98.64	- 0.12	..
UK Income	104.21	109.69	- 0.24	..
America	123.23	129.71	- 0.30	..
Japanese	54.89	57.77	- 0.05	..
European	111.90	117.78	- 0.33	..
Gilt	95.50	100.52	- 0.07	..
Deposit	83.35	87.64	+ 0.01	..
Managed	102.76	108.18	+ 0.08	..
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	108.00	115.10	..	0.27
Pacific Basin	78.79	84.89	+ 0.32	0.27
High Inc Dist	145.90	155.90	..	4.37
Ryl Life Intl Cnvy	62.90	66.64	- 0.02	4.02
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	75.40	80.51	- 0.12	0.13
Ryl Life Intl Spec	68.94	73.34	- 0.29	..
UK Emerging Cos	139.20	149.30	+ 0.30	1.63
UK Index Trckg	183.10	195.10†	..	3.16
European	147.70	158.40†	- 1.10	..
Managed	167.20	179.70	- 0.10	0.66
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 764 400				
American Growth	180.80	191.50	..	1.58
European Growth ‡	121.60	128.90	- 0.30	2.55
Far East Growth	141.60	150.70	+ 0.80	2.01
Japan Growth	136.50	145.10	- 0.60	..
Special Sits	228.00	242.50	- 0.30	1.23
UK Growth	88.42	94.06†	+ 0.14	2.07
Triton General	269.40	286.70	- 0.30	1.03
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	168.90	178.70	+ 0.40	0.35
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	350.00	370.40	- 0.90	0.23
-do- Accum	546.90	578.70	- 1.30	0.23
Growth Inc	143.70	152.10	- 0.50	0.23
-do- Accum	147.30	155.90	- 0.50	0.23
International Inc	369.20	390.70	- 1.40	0.16
-do- Accum	506.90	536.50	- 1.90	0.16
Nth Am & Intl Inc	378.30	400.20	- 1.70	0.57
UK Gen Prog Inc	238.60	252.50	...	1.14
-do- Accum	268.50	284.10	..	1.14
UK High Inc Inc	140.50	148.70	+ 0.40	3.75
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
American Gwth	77.56	82.51†	- 0.64	..
Asian Gwth	116.58	124.00	+ 0.87	0.75
European Gwth	78.22	83.21†	- 0.56	1.00
Global Bd	62.43	66.02	+ 0.05	5.60
Global Eq	64.52	68.63†	- 0.38	0.50
Japan Sm Cos	58.12	61.83	- 0.08	..
UK Gwth	75.79	80.63†	- 0.36	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 01708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	86.96	92.51†	+ 0.03	3.25
Amer Small Cos	141.40	150.40	- 0.10	..
Asian Smaller Cos	42.60	45.32	- 0.01	..
Capital Portfolio	139.80	148.70	..	1.74
Cash	130.70	130.70	..	6.17
China Dragon	59.83	63.65	+ 0.26	1.47
Commodity	134.80	143.40	- 0.10	...
Eastern Discovery	103.80	110.40	+ 0.20	...
Emerging Mkts	36.27	38.58	+ 0.22	0.04
Energy Inds	138.00	144.70	..	0.15
European Gwth	203.90	216.90†	- 0.80	0.21
Euro Inc & Gwth #	85.27	90.71	- 0.16	1.86
Euro Smlr Cos	58.98	62.74†	- 0.05	0.08
Extra Income #	55.20	58.97†	- 0.06	5.49
Financial Secs	257.40	273.80†	..	1.22
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	50.12	52.93	+ 0.02	8.75
Gold & Exploration	80.88	86.04	+ 0.19	..
High Return #	245.10	260.70	- 0.40	3.90
High Yield #	245.80	261.50	- 0.30	3.66
Income #	127.70	135.90	- 0.30	4.14
Intl Bond	176.60	186.40	- 0.30	5.42
ITU	225.40	239.80	- 0.30	0.81
Japan Growth	177.90	189.30	- 0.40	..
Japan Smaller	176.30	187.60	+ 0.50	..
Korea	84.43	89.54†	- 0.57	..
Macrotrend	59.86	63.68†	- 0.02	0.94
Scotbits	388.40	413.20	- 0.10	0.89
Scotshares #	326.10	346.90†	- 0.10	1.83
Scotyields #	262.50	279.30	- 0.10	3.20
Select Intl	149.50	159.00	- 1.50	0.48
Smaller Cos Inc #	246.90	262.70	- 0.40	4.57
SE Asia	52.62	55.98	+ 0.15	0.22
Special Situation	145.10	154.40	+ 0.10	1.78
UK Equity #	274.20	291.70	- 0.40	2.55
UK Growth	73.80	78.62	- 0.06	1.78
UK & O'seas	185.30	197.10	+ 0.10	1.21
UK Smlr Cos Gwth	53.23	56.63	- 0.13	1.53
US Growth	192.70	205.00	+ 0.10	0.13
Univ Growth	151.70	161.40	+ 0.10	0.39
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Cst: 0800 526 535 Bdr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	315.13	335.65†	+ 0.34	0.97
-do- Accum	347.80	368.51†	+ 0.34	0.97
European Gwth	83.17	88.25	- 0.64	0.91
Euro Smlr Cos	89.03	94.72	- 0.65	0.48
Far Eastern Gth	101.49	108.25	- 0.30	..
-do- Accum	103.32	110.21	- 0.31	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	53.55	56.45	+ 0.11	7.26
Global Bond #	54.45	58.27	- 0.05	6.80
-do- Accum #	61.24	63.29	- 0.06	6.90
Global Emer Mkts	51.82	55.27	- 0.14	...
-do- Accum	51.87	55.32	- 0.14	...
Income #	383.52	409.08	+ 1.20	5.07
-do- Accum #	£12.47	£13.30	+ 3.80	5.07
Japan Smlr Cos	448.89	478.81	+ 0.23	..
-do- Accum	448.79	479.77	+ 0.23	...
Japan Enterprise	71.00	75.73	- 0.30	..
Pacific Gwth	142.31	151.79	+ 0.09	0.52
-do- Accum	146.90	156.69	+ 0.09	0.52
Portfolio	89.44	95.40	+ 0.01	1.97
-do- Accum	97.79	104.30	+ 0.01	1.97
Seoul	50.65	54.02	- 0.49	..
-do- Accum	50.65	54.02	- 0.49	.
Smaller Cos	248.85	265.43	- 0.81	1.28
Tokyo	128.19	136.73	+ 0.08	..
-do- Accum	128.49	138.12	+ 0.08	..
UK Enterprise	304.50	324.80	+ 0.97	2.11
-do- Accum	367.98	392.51	+ 1.17	2.11
UK Equity	271.95	290.08	+ 0.43	2.59
-do- Accum	535.81	571.31	+ 0.84	2.59
US Smlr Cos	208.10	221.97†	+ 0.19	..
-do- Accum	208.10	221.97†	+ 0.19	...
Institutional Funds				
European	265.98	276.17	- 1.64	1.39
-do- Accum	297.56	308.96	- 1.84	1.39
Euro Smlr Cos	30.42	31.68	- 0.17	1.48
-do- Accum	32.67	34.03	- 0.18	1.48
Global Equity Inc	86.71	90.32†	- 0.15	1.11
Japan Smlr Cos	37.92	39.49	+ 0.23	0.12
-do- Accum	38.24	39.82	+ 0.23	0.12
Mngd Balanced	211.10	219.89†	+ 0.13	2.88
-do- Accum	242.78	252.89†	+ 0.15	2.88
Overseas Equity	212.84	221.70	- 0.33	1.09
-do- Accum	221.11	230.32	- 0.34	1.09
Oseas Smlr Cos	134.31	139.90	+ 0.38	0.96
-do- Accum	140.80	146.65	+ 0.39	0.96
Pacific	263.43	274.40†	+ 0.13	1.39
-do- Accum	291.08	303.21†	+ 0.15	1.39
Recovery	£20.63	£21.49	- 0.36	3.08
-do- Accum	£22.16	£23.09	- 0.39	3.08
UK Index	171.46	178.60	- 0.07	3.37
-do- Accum	215.71	224.69	- 0.09	3.37
UK Small Cos	122.29	127.38	..	2.78
-do- Accum	132.69	138.21	..	2.78
US Smlr Cos	59.54	62.02†	+ 0.10	0.54
-do- Accum	60.91	63.44†	+ 0.10	0.54
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	56.94	60.21	- 0.02	2.26
Equity Trust	70.49	74.54	+ 0.04	3.07
Equity Strategy	81.78	86.48	+ 0.03	1.15
European Opps	98.08	103.72	- 0.05	0.75
UK Smaller Cos	72.40	76.56	- 0.05	1.48
Minimum Inc	96.87	102.25	+ 0.01	6.69
Japanese	81.36	86.04	- 0.17	..
Asia Pacific	127.70	135.04	+ 0.32	3.24
American	125.50	132.72	- 0.21	0.58
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	32.13	32.13	+ 0.01	6.17
UK General Inc	59.15	62.02	+ 0.07	2.60
-do- Accum	76.41	81.51	+ 0.09	2.60
Intl Income	286.80	305.90†	- 0.10	1.56
-do- Accum	501.20	534.60†	- 0.10	1.56
European	89.93	95.24	- 0.43	1.97
Japan	70.71	74.96†	+ 0.02	0.27
American	87.49	92.69	+ 0.08	2.40
Far East	88.62	94.53	- 0.03	2.40
Ethical Inc	33.74	36.09	- 0.05	3.25
UK Blue Chip Inc	37.93	40.55	+ 0.03	4.07
High Inc Inc	38.75	41.34†	- 0.06	3.52
UK Global Inc	44.95	48.05	+ 0.09	1.73
Wwide Tact	77.87	83.24	- 0.07	2.06
Europe 2000 Tact	59.58	63.28	- 0.36	2.61
Technology	142.04	151.34†	- 0.70	0.97
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	435.50	464.70	+ 0.60	2.82
American	330.70	350.90	- 0.50	0.53
Pacific	414.80	443.40	+ 0.50	0.40
European	597.70	638.20	- 4.50	1.29
Worldwide	98.74	105.60	+ 0.30	0.49
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	302.10	321.40†	+ 0.30	2.29
-do- Accum	391.00	416.00†	+ 0.30	2.29
UK Str Co Eq Inc	229.70	244.40†	- 0.20	1.57
-do- Accum	280.90	298.90†	- 0.20	1.57
Select Oppnty Inc	78.32	83.77	- 0.05	1.96
Income Plus Inc	79.49	84.57	- 0.13	3.26
European Inc	381.30	405.70	- 3.00	1.42
-do- Accum	434.30	462.10	- 3.50	1.42
Far Eastern Inc	179.80	191.30	+ 0.20	0.88
-do- Accum	206.70	219.90	+ 0.20	0.88
Japanese Inc	64.43	68.55	+ 0.07	..
Nth American Inc	299.30	318.50	- 1.20	0.21
-do- Accum	330.90	352.10	- 1.20	0.21

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Growth Inc	224.00	238.40†	- 0.50	0.36
Wwide Venture Inc	88.28	93.92	- 0.08	0.75
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 655 3724				
Equity Inc	409.50	436.70	+ 0.20	2.47
-do- Accum	615.10	656.00	+ 0.40	2.47
UK High Inc	198.00	211.10	- 0.10	3.40
-do- Accum	298.70	318.40	- 0.10	3.40
Europe Inc	426.20	454.80	- 1.80	0.46
Nth Amer Inc	283.30	302.10	+ 1.80	..
Global Inc	241.60	257.70	- 0.60	0.23
Global Acc	260.30	277.60	- 0.60	0.23
UK Spec Sits Inc	113.20	120.80	..	2.97
South East Asia	229.20	244.40	+ 1.30	0.42
Cash Trust Inc	108.10	108.10	...	5.99
UK Smlr Cos Inc	111.50	118.90	- 0.10	2.08
-do- Accum	115.40	123.00	- 0.10	2.08
Intl Bond Inc	100.50	106.70	+ 0.30	5.27
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	154.10	161.90	+ 1.20	4.12
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	144.30	151.90	- 0.90	0.84
Nth American	132.80	139.60	- 0.40	0.17
Intl Bond & Curr	128.40	125.20†	..	6.59
Pocket Pension (E)	216.40	232.70†	+ 0.20	2.89
Smaller Cos	95.36	100.40†	.	1.02
UK General	150.30	158.20†	- 0.20	2.47
Far Eastern	100.10	105.40	- 0.10	..
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 8226				
Amer Gth Fund ‡	123.06		- 0.05	...
Aztec ‡	83.52		+ 0.32	...
European ‡	144.67		- 0.37	0.29
Global Bond ‡	97.67		+ 0.15	8.08
Investment Trust ‡	105.25		+ 0.10	2.05
Preferred Income ‡	107.55		+ 0.17	5.92
Summit ‡	55.48		- 0.32	..
Sterling Reserve ‡	107.81		+ 0.02	6.00
UK Growth ‡	104.12		+ 0.15	2.41
Tal Pac ‡	101.80		+ 0.02	...
UK Emrg Leaders ‡	102.20		- 0.16	2.92
UK Equity Inc ‡	197.35		+ 0.45	5.62
Glob Gwth PEP	70.21	74.69	- 0.32	1.31
Pref Inc PEP #	102.30	108.10	- 0.10	5.18
Inv Trust PEP	53.12	56.51	+ 0.78	...
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	396.60	421.70	- 0.30	..
Canadian	72.04	76.22	+ 0.37	0.48
Capital	139.40	149.40	+ 0.50	1.82
Cash	101.13	101.13	+ 0.01	6.22
European	145.40	154.80†	- 0.30	0.66
Far Eastern	160.70	170.60	- 0.10	..
Growth	152.30	161.10	+ 0.30	1.29
Income	135.40	143.30	- 0.30	4.86
Magnum	150.10	160.60	+ 0.40	1.65
Smlr Secs	459.20	494.80	+ 0.50	0.81
Thoroughbred	173.90	186.50	+ 0.80	1.39
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 298 422				
Central Finance	56.03	59.92	+ 0.03	7.00
Ethical	70.34	75.63	+ 0.11	0.59
European Growth	78.29	83.29	- 0.63	1.60
Income	57.73	62.07†	+ 0.05	4.30
Intl Growth	107.50	114.60	- 0.60	1.60
Managed	90.03	96.03	- 0.10	2.30
UK Growth	71.74	77.13	+ 0.10	1.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	44.80	45.83	+ 0.10	1.68
Global Advtg Acc	48.32	48.57	+ 0.10	1.68
Income Advtg Inc	34.68	34.86†	...	3.43
Income Advtg Acc	39.50	39.70	..	3.43
UK Equity Gth Acc	81.10	85.97	+ 0.30	1.39
Premier Inc Inc	49.45	52.05†	..	7.35
Premier Inc Acc	50.43	53.08	...	7.35
Managed Acc	58.27	61.77	...	1.49
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	39.87	42.27	+ 0.10	3.86
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	51.68	54.75	+ 0.10	3.86
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	71.74	76.23	+ 0.10	2.11
UK Equity Gen Inc	52.28	55.55	+ 0.10	2.11
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	32.33	34.19	.	6.05
Oseas Lng Co Acc	355.90	385.20	- 0.40	1.64
Nth American Acc	55.73	59.22	- 0.10	..
Pacific Basin	44.73	47.53	+ 0.20	0.84
European Acc	56.85	60.41	+ 0.10	1.12
Japan Acc	28.56	30.35	- 0.10	.
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZ$)	4.274	4.532	+ 0.010	1.78
US Eqts (US$)	3.033	3.217	- 0.013	0.99
Far East Eqts (yen)	256.00	271.50	- 0.20	..
FT Europa	143.20	152.10	- 0.100	1.28
FT N Amer (US$)	2.325	2.464	- 0.002	0.44
FT Japan (yen)	226.10	240.10	+ 1.80	..
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.653	2.818	+ 0.011	0.87
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	465.90	494.40†	- 1.00	..
British #	1165.40	1233.00	+ 1.20	3.16
Emrging Mkts	133.40	142.40	+ 0.20	0.45
European	577.10	614.80	- 3.00	0.52
Japan	142.40	151.30	+ 0.20	...
New Pacific	401.70	427.80	- 0.60	1.53
-do- Accum	428.20	456.00	- 0.70	1.53
Inv Trust Acc	281.60	298.70	+ 0.30	0.82
Mngd Equity	192.50	203.70	+ 0.40	1.54
Mngd Cash	86.26	86.26	+ 0.01	6.22
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 380				
Equity	962.10	1029.00	+ 1.00	2.14
North America	169.20	181.00	+ 1.10	...
Far East	157.60	168.60	+ 0.20	..
Wwide Bond	81.78	85.56	- 0.67	5.63
European	114.30	122.20	- 1.00	1.39
Equity Income #	100.10	107.10†	- 0.10	5.58
Portfolio	98.74	105.60	- 0.10	1.90
UK Leading Cos	70.84	75.58	+ 0.09	3.14
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	71.56	76.54	+ 0.01	..
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
Asterix UT	23.01	24.48†	..	1.01
European	44.43	47.27†	.	0.79
High Income	34.32	36.52	.	4.12
Japan	37.58	39.98†	.	0.01
Managed Assets	137.22	146.77	.	2.51
North American	40.00	42.56†	.	0.45
Smlr Co's Inc	32.22	34.28	.	2.04
Smlr Co's Acc	34.84	37.07†	...	2.04
UK Growth Inc	60.62	64.49	...	2.73
UK Growth Acc	66.58	70.85†	..	2.73
UK Income	43.19	46.19†	..	3.38
Worldwide Gth	39.06	41.78†	.	0.69
Confederation				
Canadian Exempt	65.83	67.87	..	2.03
European Exempt	91.79	94.63	..	2.07
Pacific Exempt	63.01	64.96†	..	1.11
US Exempt	93.74	96.64	.	1.51
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	54.21	57.67		
Cap Protectr Inc	43.17	45.93	+ 0.12	2.79
UK Income Inc	56.00	59.57	+ 0.18	3.20
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	34.51	36.71	+ 0.05	5.10
Mngd High Yld Inc	84.68	90.09†	+ 0.35	4.40
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	80.49	85.63†	+ 0.28	3.29
UK Smaller Cos	37.18	39.55	.	1.70
Pacific Grth Port	50.32	53.53	+ 0.05	0.69
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 784				
American	268.56	284.19	- 1.33	.
-do- Accum	295.80	313.02	- 1.46	..
Brit Growth	110.29	116.71	+ 0.21	1.94
-do- Accum	135.17	143.03	+ 0.25	1.94
European	116.08	122.84	- 0.98	..
-do- Accum	123.55	130.74	- 1.05	..
Extra Income	202.33	214.10	+ 0.69	3.78
-do- Accum	356.54	377.29	+ 1.21	3.78
Smaller Cos	79.52	84.15	- 0.11	0.97
-do- Accum	90.35	95.64	- 0.12	0.97
General	326.22	345.21	+ 0.46	2.28
-do- Accum	683.46	723.24	+ 0.97	2.28
Premier Income	51.95	54.12	+ 0.03	6.55
-do- Accum	123.56	128.73	+ 0.08	6.55
Income	349.78	370.14†	+ 0.89	3.48
-do- Accum	794.43	840.66†	+ 2.01	3.48
Pacific	424.26	448.95	- 0.33	..
-do- Accum	445.79	471.73	- 0.35	.
International	605.81	641.07†	- 1.38	..
-do- Accum	798.17	844.63†	- 2.47	..
Natl Resources	180.93	191.46	+ 0.49	..
Gilt Opps	122.47	129.60	- 0.12	1.58
-do- Accum	158.39	167.61	- 0.15	1.58
Environmental Inv	70.54	74.65	+ 0.15	1.42
Selector	68.78	72.78†	+ 0.02	1.51
-do- Accum	79.05	83.65†	+ 0.03	1.51
High Income	67.97	71.93	+ 0.18	4.23
-do- Accum	88.63	93.79	+ 0.24	4.23
Intl Income	63.90	67.62	+ 0.07	5.10
-do- Accum	81.83	86.59	+ 0.09	5.10
Selector Income	64.65	68.42†	+ 0.13	4.16
-do- Accum	79.05	83.65†	+ 0.16	4.16
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 687 1018				
British	370.73	390.24	+ 0.59	2.73
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	224.46	239.01	- 0.64	2.26
Glob Balncd Inc	185.62	199.80	- 0.52	3.62
Value Tst Inc	130.35	139.41†	- 0.56	2.11
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	45.28	47.11	- 0.08	6.77
European Growth	303.77	318.98	- 2.87	0.40
Exempt	608.01	634.92	+ 0.84	2.62
Global Em Mkts	79.92	83.68	+ 0.21	0.37
Japan Tst	84.31	88.28	- 0.58	...
Little Dragons	92.68	98.77	+ 1.52	...
Nth Amer Gwth	284.49	297.88	- 0.41	0.49
Oriental Income #	46.97	49.20	+ 0.40	2.27
Preference	129.91	136.03	+ 0.22	8.54
Tiger	287.04	300.56	- 0.27	..
UK Blue Chip	72.51	75.92	+ 0.18	1.75
UK Growth	590.63	618.46	+ 2.06	2.08
UK High Yield #	108.70	113.82	+ 0.46	4.43
UK Mid-Cap	275.79	288.78	+ 0.78	2.17
UK Smlr Cos	117.33	122.85	+ 0.45	0.96
UK Smlr Cos Div #	88.60	92.77	+ 0.37	5.25
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 336				
UK Equity Income	106.80	113.62	+ 0.21	3.43
UK Equity Growth	94.95	101.01	+ 0.18	2.74
European	73.50	78.26	- 0.78	1.50
Nth American	83.73	89.07†	- 0.12	0.16
Far Eastern	76.17	81.03†	+ 0.24	0.65
Money	69.41	69.41	+ 0.01	5.36
Fixed Interest	77.72	82.68	+ 0.04	5.70
Index Linked Gilt	70.62	75.13	...	1.26
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD 0345 959595				
Income Trust	105.29	105.29	+ 0.13	6.81
UK Index Tracking @	120.49	120.49	+ 0.20	2.86
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	25.89	27.25	+ 0.19	..
Pacific Basin	44.60	46.94	+ 0.12	..
Global Bond (US$)	0.9138	0.9518	- 0.0024	..
Penny Share	43.73	46.03	+ 0.12	..
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 623 2444				
Challenger	100.40	103.20†	- 0.30	2.90
Short Dtd Gilt	121.30	122.90	- 0.10	..
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7684	0.7785	- 0.0001	..
Gilt Income	52.97	55.12	- 0.11	6.70
Gilt Growth	77.49	80.55	- 0.25	..
Sterling Bond	50.01	51.86†	- 0.11	7.00
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mngd	52.61	55.90	.	1.82
UK Stockmarket	90.25	96.00	..	2.45

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge.

Carving the lottery cake

Rodney Hobson finds some groups content with their slice and others left scrabbling for crumbs

If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. As the National Lottery is clearly here to stay, the Charities Aid Foundation and Centurion Press this week launched a new magazine called *Lottery* to help charities claim their share of the proceeds.

Many charities feared their finances would be badly hit as people switched from making direct donations to buying lottery tickets with only a quarter of the money going to good causes, not all of them charities. Those fears have waned lately for some, partly because charities will have been allocated about £162 million of lottery money by the end of the year, according to the National Lottery Charities Board. That makes the lottery the biggest new source of income ever to come the charities' way.

The NLCB announced its second tranche of awards on November 20, with £35.6 million going to 548 charities including the Samaritans, Arthritis Care and Mencap. All the awards were for less than £500,000, and most for less than £50,000.

An earlier handout — £40 million to 627 charities — was made in October and the final awards from the first-round bids will be made before Christmas. This final batch will include some larger grants.

The National Lottery has also distributed £82 million to charities fighting poverty in Britain. The latest handout, of £4 million, went to 28 groups at the end of November. Awards included nearly £500,000 to Oxfam, which is better known for its operations in the Third World but decided in May to step up its work in this country.

Barnardos, the children's charity, received £600,000. It says it is too early to assess the impact of the lottery, but a spokeswoman adds: "We are naturally delighted to receive the grant. But we still need to raise a lot of money each year, and we are keeping an eye on the impact of the lottery."

Unsuccessful applicants will be able to apply for funds in the second round, when the accent will be on youth. Application packs will be available until January 19 by calling 0345 919191.

Charity grants provide full funding for a project. Matching funds are required by the Arts, Sports, Heritage and Millennium Boards but voluntary labour and other contributions in kind count.

The Home Office is backing research into the impact of the National Lottery on charitable income, and a report on the first full year of the lottery will be presented to Parliament in spring. The research will consider whether the voluntary sector as a whole is better or worse off, and whether the impact has varied between different types of organisation.

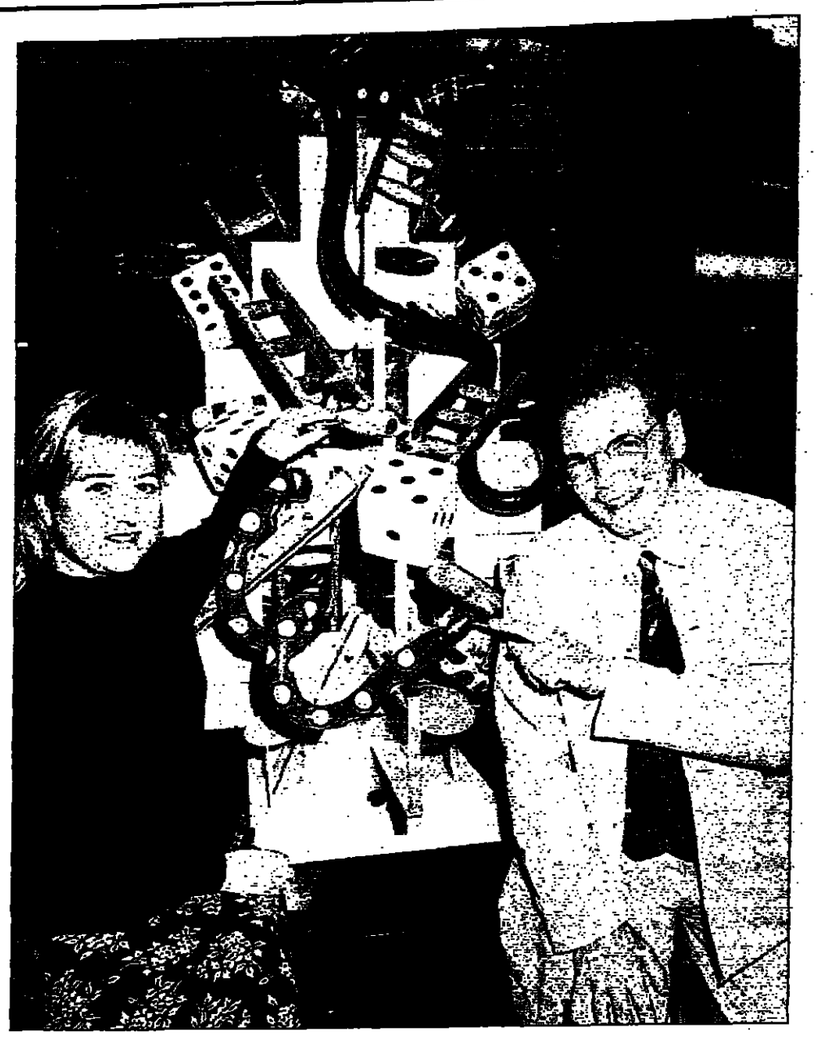
Stuart Etherington of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations is still cautious, though. "The NCVO is disappointed that the lottery appears to have affected the income of fundraising charities," he says. "But we are pleased they are receiving grants from the NLCB."

Others are still less enthusiastic about the impact of the lottery. Save the Children announced £9 million of cutbacks this month, including the closure of projects and loss of jobs, saying "significant pressure" from the National Lottery was in part to blame.

Even more vulnerable are less well-known groups such as the Sickle Cell Society, which helps victims of a blood disease affecting Afro-Caribbeans.

Child development worker Andy Ashenhurst says: "We have had a clear drop in contributions since the National Lottery began. The Sickle Cell Society probably typifies the adverse impact of the lottery. The people who donate to it tend to belong to the less affluent social groups — the very people who are drawn to the lottery in the hope that a big win will transform their lives."

● *Lottery will be published quarterly at an annual subscription of £30 from Dept BMS, Merlin Way, North Weald Industrial Estate, Epping, Essex CM16 6HR.*



Right: Elaine Taylor and Mike Shepherd with their snakes and ladders Christmas tree, designed for Hambros and sold at auction for £15,000 at last week's Festival of Trees at the Natural History Museum. Sir Terence Conran and Anton Mosimann were among the other designers of the 14 trees sold. Sponsored by Andersen Consulting and attended by the Princess Royal, the evening made a record £200,000 for Save the Children — a welcome antidote to the lottery.

All change on the investment front

Helen Pridham on alterations to charity trustee law

With more demands being made on charities, their trustees face an onerous task. They must think not only of today's beneficiaries but future generations, too. Their investment strategy plays a vital role in this balancing act.

Charity investment is in a state of change. Earlier this year, charities were given the go-ahead to invest up to 75 per cent of their funds in equities. Then the Charity Commission issued proposed guidelines for charity income and investment of charitable funds. More recently, the Treasury has announced that it is to undertake a fundamental review of regulation.

For small and medium-sized charities, investment matters have not always been a priority. Although charities have been able to invest at least half their funds in equities since the early 1960s, many trustees played it safe and stuck to holding gilts and cash deposits.

John Dockerill, of Mercury Asset Management, explained: "Trustees felt their main duty was to preserve capital sums. Unfortunately, they often overlooked the impact of inflation on their spending power." Even when they invested in shares, it tended to be on a do-it-yourself, rather passive basis. The administration of the investments was usually left to the Official Custodian.

The demise of the Official Custodian, which passed administration back to the charities, and the Charities Acts of 1992 and 1993, which highlighted trustees' investment responsibilities, brought a change of attitude.

According to Sarah Hamilton, charities marketing manager at Flemings, charity investors started taking an increasing interest in professional management. At the same time, leading City fund managers such as Flemings, Foreign & Colonial and Schroders, which had previously offered their services only to large charities, saw an opportunity to attract smaller charities by offering common investment funds (CIFs). Since then CIFs have become more popular and more prolific in their numbers and marketing activities. There are now 20 funds available, offering a professionally managed and diversified portfolio of investments. Minimum investment starts as low as £1,000 and initial and annual management charges can be less than 0.5 per cent.

Even for larger charities, a CIF can be useful. Peter Henderson, of Cazenove, which manages CIFs on behalf of the Charities Aid Foundation, says: "They can be used for pots of money, such as bequests to provide scholarships, which need to be kept separate and identifiable in the future."

On the investment front, CIFs also give trustees greater freedom. John Dockerill, of Mercury, says: "With CIFs, trustees do not have to worry about dividing investments into 25 per cent narrower-range, 75 per cent wider-range assets. As the funds are special-range investments, they can invest in them in any proportions."

The performance of all CIFs is monitored by CAPs and the WM company. Trustees will need to appraise their charity's income needs and future capital requirements before deciding on their choice of funds. Professional guidance on the most appropriate investment strategy should be sought.

EQUITY FUNDS

Fund Name	Investment Managers	Fund Size £m	Total returns per annum Over 5 Yrs % p.a.	Over 3 Yrs % p.a.	Over 1 Yr %
CAF Balanced Growth	Cazenove	108.0	15.3	15.4	18.3
Charifund	M & G	530.0	17.1	21.2	16.8
Chariguard UK Equity	Kleinworts	13.4	–		18.6
Charishare	Mercury	223.5	16.2	16.6	18.0
Charity Equity	Schroders	69.3	–	18.6	19.9
COIF	CCLA	595.4	16.1	16.4	15.1
Common Fund for Growth	F & C	5.7	–		13.3
Fledgeling UK Equity	Flemings	22.2	–	14.5	15.5
UK Grwth & Inc	Barings	42.6	–		15.2
RETAIL PRICE INDEX			3.1	2.6	3.9

Performance on bid to bid price basis to 30.9.95. Source: The WM Company. Other equity funds on offer: The Alpha Charity Fund, Chariguard Overseas Equity Fund

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ILO PHOTO/J.P.LAFFONT/SYGMA

More aid for Indian children is coming from India itself, helped by British expertise

When charity begins abroad

Philip Barron on how the art of fundraising is exported

Some people do not respond to appeals from charities working overseas because, they say, the better-off in Third World countries ignore their own poor. This can be an excuse, of course, but British donors with genuine reservations will be reassured to learn that fundraising in the Third World is now being stimulated as never before.

Through a small central team based in London, major Western charities such as Oxfam and the Red Cross are adding gifts of fundraising expertise to their monetary support for partner-agencies abroad.

Responding to the fact that many emerging nations, for the first time in their history, now have a substantial middle class, our top fundraisers have been giving their "secrets" away at a series of workshops in Asia, Africa, South America and, recently, Eastern Europe. Demand for places on the courses is strong: 90 had to be turned away when a workshop was held in Prague in September.

The idea of fundraisers meeting across frontiers dates from 1981, when the doyen of British fundraising, Harold Sumption, and an American friend, John Erickson, set up a seminar in Holland attended by 35 delegates, all from the affluent West. The event grew into the International Fundraising Workshop, held annually ever since. This year 550 people came.

The first Third World workshop was held in South Asia in 1989. Since then, 3,000 charity workers from 90 countries have been taught how to raise funds effectively.

Our donor-agencies are happy to share their expertise. "It is vital that the projects we support move towards self-sufficiency," says Oxfam's Rona Anderson. "Better fundraising by our partners means we have more funds available for new anti-poverty initiatives. It also builds the confidence and independence of project partners to decide their own priorities and direction when addressing problems in their communities."

Harold Sumption, now 79, tells of one Indian charity which used to get only 20 per cent of its income from its compatriots, the other 80 per cent coming from foreign sources. Now the proportions have been reversed, using the knowledge "exported" by the West.

In Eastern Europe, the phenomenal growth in the voluntary sector since the collapse of communism has created a great need for fundraising skills. It is estimated that in Hungary, for example, there are now 20,000 charities and self-help groups.

The International Fundraising Group, which co-ordinates the workshops worldwide, is based in a small office in Kennington, south London. Its director Per Stenbeck, a Swede who used to work for the Swedish arm of Save the Children, believes the spirit of philanthropy is alive in all nations.

"Fundraising has to do with our innermost feelings of compassion, of wanting to help people in need," he says. "What opens hearts in London will also open hearts in Delhi, Nairobi or Caracas."

Clarke turns deaf ear to tax pleas

Change to payroll schemes is not enough, say agencies

When the Chancellor Kenneth Clarke announced that he was raising the maximum limit for giving to charity through payroll deduction schemes, the charity industry groaned.

He is proposing to increase the amount which can be donated tax-free from an employee's salary from £900 per year to £1,200 in the 1996-97 tax year, and to put concessions which allow charities to earn some tax-free income on to a statutory basis. But charities had hoped for more.

Organisations such as the Charities' Tax Reform Group and the Charities' Aid Foundation have lobbied hard for tax changes to improve revenue.

Payroll schemes enable employees to give money regularly before tax has been paid. The CAF runs the biggest scheme — Give As You Earn. While it admits that the £300 rise is generous, it had asked for the limit to be abolished.

It also lobbied for the minimum limit on Gift Aid to be removed. Gift Aid allows charities to reclaim basic rate tax on one-off donations. Originally the Inland Revenue required gifts to be a minimum of £900, but it has reduced the limit to £250.

But Vicki Pulman of the CAF says: "Although the limit coming down has increased the number of people who contribute, a lot more could — or would — afford to give to charity if the limit went altogether."

According to research by the CAF into charitable giving, the average amount given monthly per individual was £10.08. This figure is distorted because 24 per cent of those questioned gave substantially more than £10, while nearly half gave less than £2 and one in five people gave nothing.

However, the Chancellor has not removed the minimum limit, stopping charities from reclaiming tax on the vast majority of the donations they receive. He has also ignored pleas for charities to be exempted from VAT on non-business activities.

Ian Macgregor, chairman of the Charities' Tax Reform Group, says the irrecoverable VAT is costing charities more than £350 million a year. He says: "The figures are so small in terms of the Government's overall spending but they are critical to charities.

"Imagine paying the bills if you run a charitable home for blind or disabled people, where you have to keep the heating at a certain level."

Any advantages the changes announced in the Budget might have given have been wiped out by the lowering of the basic rate of tax to 24 per cent.

Charities can reclaim any income tax paid on money donated through Deed of Covenant or Gift Aid. The Inland Revenue will also refund tax paid on money put into a charity account, adding the refund to the balance of the account. The account holder can distribute the money to as many charities as he or she wishes by writing a cheque.

But the reduction of basic rate tax by 1p in the pound means charities can reclaim less tax. The sums might seem tiny, but the Charities Tax Reform Group estimates it could cost Oxfam £150,000 a year.

JILL INSLEY

● *For further information contact the Charities Aid Foundation at CAF, King's Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA (01732 520000).*

How much do you spend in order to give?

Caroline Merrell on the pros and cons of giving with charity cards

Affinity cards have grown in popularity as a method of donating to charity, with more and more charities offering them. The strength of the resulting feel good factor is such that those with charity-affinity cards tend to spend more on average annually than those with normal credit cards.

According to Midland Bank, which provides a range of affinity cards for charities, the average amount of money spent with such a card tends to be about £1,800 annually, as compared to £1,200 spent with a normal credit card.

The cost-effectiveness of using an affinity card depends on whether you choose to pay off your balance each month. The interest rates on these cards are high. A monthly rate of 1.75 per cent equates to an annual rate (APR) of 23 per cent, which is some 8 per cent higher than the annual rate on normal credit cards offered by Save & Prosper and The Royal Bank of Scotland. If you do not pay off your balance regularly, it may be better to use a normal credit card, and give to charity directly.

The Co-operative Bank launched its affinity card with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in the late 1980s. David Fawell, the bank's marketing manager, says: "We now have 200,000 affinity-card holders out of a total of 900,000 cardholders."

The Bank of Scotland started affinity cards in 1987, linking up to the NSPCC. Alex Steven, the bank's affinity manager, says: "We started marketing affinity cards in 1990 and now have links with 350 organisations."

The providers of charity affinity cards claim that their success is dependent on the strength of people's feelings for a particular charity. They use the charity's mailing lists to encourage people to apply for one. The cards work on the principle of an upfront donation to charity — at present £5 — when the card is taken out plus an donation of around 25 pence for every £100 spent.

They do take the effort out of giving but may not be the most efficient way to make donations. For example, if you give more than £250, or pledge to give money each year for four years, you can benefit from tax relief, so that a £100 donation is worth £124 to the charity.

The Charities Aid Foundation, a charity which allows its members to contribute to a number of different charities, does not believe that affinity cards are tax efficient. The foundation has two schemes: one for those who want to give £250 and one for those who want to pledge money over four years. It will reclaim the tax back from the Government, and then give the money to the chosen charity.

It may be more tax efficient to give money under the payroll-giving scheme, operated by employers. This allows payment to a charity each year out of untaxed income. In the last Budget, the Chancellor increased the annual ceiling on payroll giving to £1,200.

AFFINITY CARDS

Affinity card	Issuer	Int rates per month	Donations On open	% of pur
Amnesty International	Co-op Bank	1.7	£5	0.20
Bank of Scotland Affinity Groups		1.63	Variable	
Carecard	Midland	1.75	£5	0.25
Feed the Children	Co-op Bank	1.7	£5	0.25
Halifax Visa charity card	Halifax BS	1.49		0.20
Help the Aged	Co-op Bank	1.7	£5	0.25
Labour Party	Co-op Bank	1.7	£5	0.25
Lib Dems	Co-op bank	1.7	£5	0.25
MBNA		1.45	Variable	0.25
National Trust	Midland Bank	1.75	£5	0.25
Oxfam	Co-op Bank	1.75	£5	0.25
RSPB	Co-op Bank	1.7	£5	0.25

Carecard charities include Age Concern, Cancer Research Campaign, Save the Children; Bank of Scotland charities include Actionaid, Great Ormond Street, RSPCA; MBNA has 200 affinity groups including the Officers's Pension Society, WWF (UK); Halifax charities include British Heart Foundation, Mencap, Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

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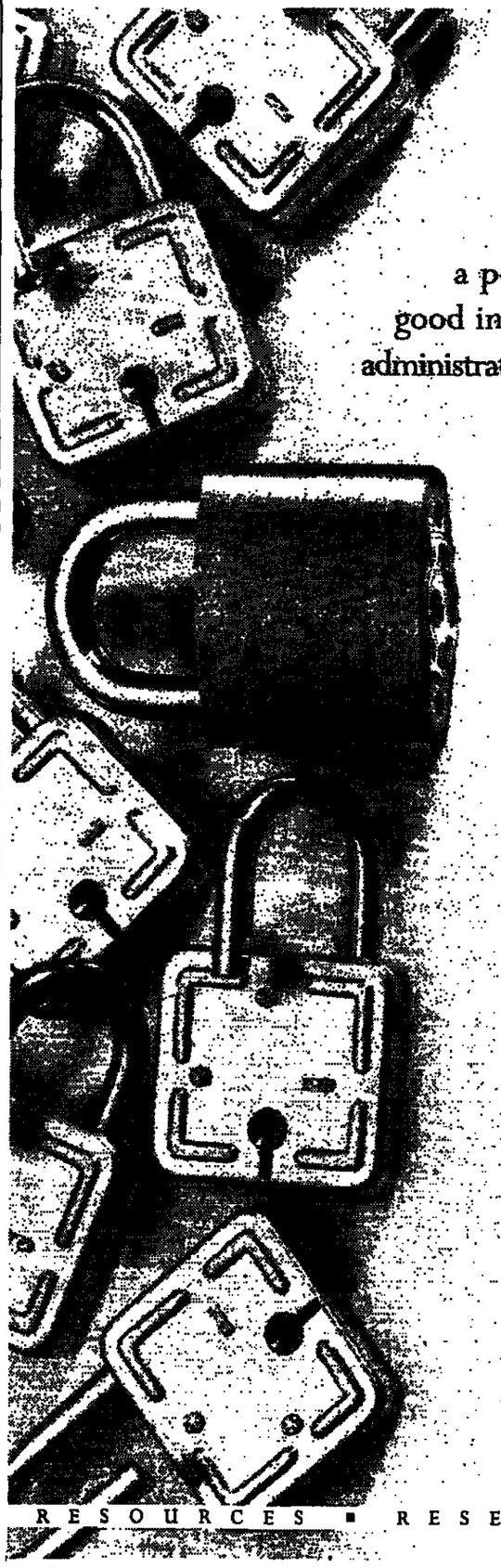
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RESOURCES ▪ RESEARCH ▪ RESULTS

Modest gains in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2537½	2137½	ABN-AMRO	2369½	– 25	4.5	10.5
654	413	Abbey Nat	633	+ 5	3.8	12.7
368	268	Allied Irish	358	...	4.0	10.4
298	198	Anz New Z	295	...	5.4	...
4425	2531½	Bank Amerinvt	4405½	+ 49½	...	...
285	191½	Bank Scotland	278	+ 3	2.8	12.3
817½	557½	Barclays	777	+ 5	3.6	10.6
488	286	Bk of Ireland	477	– 1	3.2	11.1
535	418	Cater Allenf	437	+ 2	8.6	7.2
4719½	2450	Cesaro	4380	–112½	...	...
340½	216½	Close Bros	325	+ 1	3.3	14.4
£162½	£129½	Commerzbk	£152½	+ 8½	3.5	...
1375	959½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1358½	+ 6½	0.4	...
3231½	2775	Deutsche Bk	3150	+ 18½	2.4	...
661½	568½	Espirito Santo	620½	...	5.9	8.0
1611	1139½	Fuji Bank Y	1457½	+ 20	0.4	...
480	395	Gerrard Nat	453	...	6.2	14.6
203	180	Hambrost	201	...	4.7	...
1018	569	HSBC	1000	+ 2	3.5	13.1
694	576	HSBC Hk	661½	+ ½	3.6	12.8
395	328	Irish Perm	395	+ 2	3.1	9.3
463	353	Joseph (Lt)	460	+ 2	5.1	25.7
145	85	King Shaxson	144	+ 4½	7.8	11.3
885	530	Lloyds	883	+ 4	3.8	13.5
580	470	Nat Aust Bk	582	...	4.1	9.7
697	454	Nat West	665	+ 1	4.3	10.3
3080	2150	Ottoman Bank	2580	...	6.5	3.4
67	44	Rea Brothers	48	+ 2	2.6	19.2
619	373½	Rnl Bk Scot	578	+ 1	3.6	12.8
1478	995½	Schroders	1343	+ 5	4.5	12.9
1180	823½	Schroders NV	1150	+ 2	1.5	16.4
111	81	Singer & Fried	110½	...	4.2	11.4
525	346	Standd Chart	505	+ 2½	2.8	14.2
417	217	TSB	411	+ 3	3.5	14.4
121	70	Union	112	– 1	3.7	...
£145½	90434	Wells Fargo	£143½	+ 2½	2.1	...
279	211	Westpac	268½	+ 1½	5.1	...
395	300	Wintrust	370	+ 2	5.3	15.4

BREWERIES

253	143	Allied Allsop	252	+ 2		0.5
727	467	Bass	726	+ 2	4.0	...
449	288	Boddington	448	+ 4	2.5	23.1
192	137	Burtonwd Brwt	176	...	3.6	17.9
191	137	Dchdge P 'A'	190	...	3.1	...
533	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	416	– 1	2.6	17.1
544	402	Greenall Gp	541	...	3.3	...
658	486	Grtnrdr Nag	1331	...	2.9	16.8
297	240	Hardy Hanson	285	...	4.5	...
199	150	Heavitree	155	...	4.5	10.9
3425	3048	Hsn J	3108	...	2.2	16.6
347	319	Macallan	316	...	2.7	15.9
321	266	Morgan Thmpt	306	...	3.9	14.4
543	291½	Mortonsn	530	– 1	2.8	...
8½	6½	Paramount	6¾	...	4.1	10.8
629	397	Regent Inns	629	+ 12	1.4	24.8
2331½	1397½	S&A Brewstrs	2331½	+ 12½	1.6	31.2
540	462	Shell 'A' Rwn	500	– 1	3.5	16.3
337	230	Scot & Nwc PP	330	...	...	...
218	173	Tom Cobleigh	195	...	1.8	31.6
211	171	Vaux Group	208	– 3	5.3	12.7
640	467	Wolverhmpton	640	...	1.6	19.7
679	521	Whitbread 'A'	664	– 4	3.9	18.4
585	483	Wolvrhmpton D	556	+ 8	3.5	...
310	186	Yates Bros	304	– 1	1.3	26.9
472	425	Young 'A't	436	...	4.3	17.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

156	125	Abbey	149	...	4.7	9.1
198	143	Allerit	196	...	3.8	14.6
101	64½	Amec	98	– 1	3.8	20.9
275	133	Andrews Sykes	256	...	...	...
195	137½	Ashtead	170	– 2	1.8	18.8
105	35	Ashtead 'A'	35	...	11.9	5.6
36	23	Bailey (Ben) Con	25	...	5.2	6.7
41½	30½	Barcrft	30	...	1	37.5
233	138	Barrtt Dev	233	+ 6	4.0	14.5
170	132	Bazor Homes	167	+ 1	4.4	12.0
266	180	Bellway	256	– 2	3.9	11.8
37	15	Bellwinch	17	...	1.5	9.1
482	315	Berkeley Gp	467	...	2.1	15.2
296	184	Bett Bros	277	...	4.3	14.8
245	190	Bovt (Henry)	193	...	4.7	9.0
124	81	Bremnr Hldr	90	+ 1	3.1	16.0
43	17	Brewers Gp	28	...	7.7	5.1
169	96	Br Bldg & Eng	149	...	5.4	12.8
134	93	Bryant	105	...	6.7	9.5
121	98	CALA	111	...	3.6	10.7
38	16	Campbell & Ann	20	...	...	15.9
64	49	Clarke T	49	...	10.4	17.6
107	72	Costain	72	...	...	...
110	53	Countryside	62	– 7	5.8	...
81	43	Crest Nicholsn	69½	– ½	4.1	8.5
98	70	Cuscnc	81	...	5.9	7.1
293	165	Eat Group	165	...	6.9	8.8
29	13	Galliford	25	...	6.4	40.5
860	738	Gleeson (M)Ir	738	...	2.8	...
66	60	Green (Ernst)	60	...	10.6	28.1
273	178	Hanscmb Ewrt	272	...	1.5	22.9
158	115	Hawdon-Stuart	134½	– ½	2.6	14.3
93	73	Higgs & Hill	85	...	3.4	14.0
72	14	Howard Hidgs	15	...	6.7	17.5
29½	9¾	Jarvis	22½	...	...	...
148	98	Kelles	148	+ 5	3.2	14.3
255	185	Lang (J)	252	– 2	4.5	31.1
104	62	Lang C & Co Pf	103	...	7.8	...
61	12	Lovell (Y)	17	...	...	...
210	175	Maunders (J)	195	...	3.8	9.9
181	104	McAlpine (A)	143	...	5.2	16.3
70	48	McCarthy & S	69½	...	3.9	...
80	51	Morgan Sndall	78	...	1.4	...
123	118	Morrison Cons	123	...	4.3	13.0
106	43	Mowlem (J)	98	– 1	4.3	21.9
216	162	Persimmon	184	...	6.5	12.7
114½	76¼	Pochins	100	...	2.0	12.2
126	94	Prowting	111	...	4.3	14.8
93	13	Raine Ind	13	...	4.2	...
51	26	Secure Retire	49	...	2.6	9.3
139	90	Shelfmn	128	+ 2	3.1	11.9
398	335	Sherrill Hidgs	329	+ 1	2.7	...
112½	71	Shorco	71	...	7.0	10.9
368	256	Standard	353	...	1.0	22.5
176	142	Tay Homes	150	– 1	5.6	10.3
130	99	Taylor Woodrw	122	– 1	2.3	23.2
568	415	Tilbury Douglas	443	...	6.3	15.1
59½	38	Torex Hldr	33	...	4.9	14.7
23	6	Trencherwood	10	...	...	4.1
30	7½	Try Group	10½	...	6.0	14.7
109	73	Tysserdrand	73	– 1	6.9	5.5
116	93	Washbourn	100	...	5.6	9.3
60	31	Ward Hidgs	46	...	4.1	10.3
190	123	Westbrutt	177	+ 1	4.3	13.1
5½	2½	Wiggins	3	...	...	30.6
174	124	Wilcon (C)	152	...	3.7	11.1
372	306	Wilson Bowdn	348	+ 1	3.6	12.7
138	97	Wimpey G	132	+ 2	5.2	19.2

BUILDING MATERIALS

14	7½	Allington	13	...	1.9	...
445	311¼	Alumasc	415	...	2.2	17.9
342	267½	BPB Indt	337	+ 6	4.0	13.5
133	94	Baggeridge Brk	117	– 7	3.4	...
38	22½	Barston	30	+ ½	8.3	14.6
76	38	Blackfrs	45	...	1.1	...
339	255	Blue Circle	332	+ 7	4.4	15.1
89	72	Brendon PLC	77	...	7.8	10.7
136	106	Br Dredging	107	...	6.5	14.0
485	338	CRH	465	+ 2	2.1	18.2
48	38	Caledonian Ntg	38	...	5.3	...
210	143	Cape	146	...	8.4	11.3
273	174	Caradon	186	...	6.4	9.6
134½	98½	Caradon pf	108½	...	8.5	...
35	18	Chilton Gp	19	...	13.2	...
198	156	Cmpng (W)	200	+ 2	4.5	16.3
90	63	Dyson 'A'	83	...	6.0	6.9
99½	66½	Eclipse Blinds	92	– ½	...	...
315	220	Ennis	297	...	4.7	12.8
126	73	Fibre	126	+ 6	...	...
39	25	Forte & Dandy	33	...	4.3	...
205	160	Graham Grp	198	...	3.4	17.3
389	312	Hanson (J)	369	...	3.7	17.1
325	254	Heywortht	302	– 1	6.1	13.9
85	39	Hewden	41	...	7.8	8.5
268	202½	Hmrsl Wtn	200	+ ½	7.5	10.6
85	62	Ibstock	68½	...	3.3	11.0
398	262	Johnstone	335	...	3.9	7.8
108	64	Lilleshall	90	...	6.7	10.8
194	105	Marley	113	+ ½	5.4	9.8
180	123	Marshalls	165	+ 3	1.4	30.2
383	289	Meyer Intl	373	+ 1	3.9	14.1
178	121	Newman Tsks	121	...	7.1	10.9
108	71	Norcros	78	+ 1	...	...
178	131	Pochin, Towler	131	...	...	16.2
307	193½	Pilkington'A'	290	+ 3	3.0	15.0
177	122	Polypipe	168	+ 6	2.0	15.6
1119	848½	RMC Gp	885	+ 6	3.7	13.5
16	3	Ramac	5	...	...	...
210	152	Redland	174	+ 4	5.6	11.9
122	88	Ryobi	94	...	5.7	9.8
176½	138	Rutland	145	...	5.3	11.7
125	100	Rugby Group	104	– 1	4.3	13.4
313	88	Russell (A)	113	...	2.9	15.5
282	205	SIG	267	...	3.7	11.5
19	11	SWP	11½	...	...	...
180	156	Sharpe & Fisher	157	...	4.8	12.5
43	16	Spring Ram	25	...	2.5	...
130	72	Tarmac	99	+ ½	7.2	14.4
160	100	Tarn	103	...	5.9	...
348	255	Travis Perkins	344	+ 1	3.3	14.4
38	24	Tunnel	30	+ 3	3.1	17.8
68	32	Watkinsnwse	68	...	...	...
136	83	Wates	121	...	2.0	22.6
455	324	Wimpey(H)	433	+ 3	2.8	14.7

BUSINESS SERVICES

2	0½	Anglo Utd	0¾	...	...	...
110	57	Aqt Hldg	93	...	...	...
7¾	5¼	Bailey (CH)	6¼	...	...	...
59	36	Bard Airport	40	...	9.7	7.0
69	60	Br Biosteck	66	...	...	28.4
6	3	Card Gp	3¾	...	...	...
9¼	4½	Chemex	6¼	...	2.0	19.5
161	105	Dscrd	155	...	1.4	...
224	145	Dwnnd	217	...	1.4	17.8
43	24	Hackney	32	...	...	29.1
436	248	Hunstock	423	+ 3	2.6	16.2
188	97	Ledgrd	97	– 1	8.5	11.4
154	105	Metrin Gp	134	...	4.5	8.8
355	151	Photo-Me	155	...	4.0	13.8
68	53	Pont & Genf	57	...	5.9	6.2
11	0¾	Rodime	1¼	...	...	...
104	71	Shanks & McEwan	88	– 1	4.8	18.4
213	159	Sinclair (Wm)	198	...	5.1	12.7
414	241	Waste Mgt Intl	327	+ 4	...	12.4
148	73	Waste Recyg	134	– 1	1.1	29.1

CHEMICALS

196	146	Albright & Wil	155	...	4.8	16.4
137	109	Allied Colloids	128	...	2.6	19.6
245	186	Amber Ind't	207	+ 2	3.4	13.5
73	47	Amersorby Gp	72	...	2.3	20.6
£147½	£129½	BASF Dfd	£143½	–203½	3.1	...
313	265	Bdgty	309	– 1	3.7	17.9
303	235	BTP	295	...	5.3	15.2
£171¼	£141¼	Bayer DM50	£168½	–265½	3.5	...
165	103	Bradon	144	– 1	...	...
119	67	Brent Chems	88	+ 1	9.8	18.9
182	115	Br Vita	178	...	3.4	16.9
299	184	Cmpng (W)	200	...	4.5	14.8
489½	352	Cwerbaldent	388	+ 3	5.0	17.7
387½	310	Croda	334	+ 5	3.4	14.6
213	125	Daelim	208	– 4	3.5	13.6
282	234	Ellis & Everard	249	– 1	4.2	14.5
107	58	Evns Cnbert	85	...	4.7	13.9
224	114	Elcont	192	– ½	4.3	15.0
145	79	Hickson	79	...	6.6	7.5
£171½	£125½	Hoechst	£168½	– 1½	3.1	...
221½	168	Holliday Chem	169	...	9.7	12.0
349½	248	ICI	345	– 3	4.8	14.2
360	198½	Inspec	329	+ 1	1.8	23.0
199	97½	Kalon	108	...	5.3	12.3
663	569	Laporte	655	+ 18	4.6	13.4
85	65	MTM	79	...	2.5	14.2
286	204	Mancers	284	– 1	2.1	12.8
66	30	Metalrod	37	...	5.1	13.8
516	382½	Monsblsoan	410	– ½	5.0	18.3
455	290	Porvair	365	– 6	1.7	26.7
250	186	Scapa	217	...	3.6	15.5
34	15	Soldotta Sands#	21	...	2.2	33.3
1073½	655½	Lbertd Chem	1057	– 21½	0.9	13.6
256	186	Washington Hsg	248	...	3.4	19.0
1656	728	Wtsmithne R	983	...	2.8	16.7
374	262	Yates Chem	262	...	4.1	12.8
348	234½	Yule Catto	310	...	3.0	16.4

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
707½	98½	ASH Lncl	94	...	5.8	9.7
565	460	Adam & Harvey	463	– 2	5.3	8.1
21	13	Alexanders	17	...	5.1	28.0
113	88	Applevard	93	...	8.1	10.0
4¾	3¾	Ass Br Eng	3¾	...	2.1	28.5
623	518	BBS Group†	535	– 5	4.8	15.4
39	31	Bondi	38	...	...	...
21½	15½	Bowling Powert	17	...	...	...
28	18	Bregd 'A'	26	...	3.4	9.2
453	345	Brammer	429	– 1	3.9	18.5
21	10½	Bridgend Gpf	17½	...	1.4	...
96	78	Brit Fittings	82	+ 1	4.9	12.4
270	215	Caffyns	256	...	5.5	16.9
88	54	Compct Mtr	75	...	4.6	20.4
64	35	Cash (DC)	56	...	3.7	8.4
402½	250	Conse	394	– 1	4.0	12.7
155	125	Dag Motors	126	...	7.1	10.4
1098	893	Delmores B	1003	– 1	1.9	11.1
1098	899	Diploma†	1008	– 2	4.4	...
1255	913	Electrocompont	1214	+ 6	2.1	24.7
2565	153	Eurotib Elec	255	+ 2	2.1	17.6
1238	64	Eurodollar	82	+ 1	15.3	3.8
138	87	European Mkt	97	...	6.7	8.3
3493	2381	Evans Halshw	3385	...	6.8	8.9
727	515	Farnell Elect	727	+ 5	1.7	21.1
73	48	Fin Indmsr	70	...	6.2	10.8
24½	15	Gardner	17½	...	5.9	7.7
39½	16	Glenchewon	33½	– ½	1.1	...
106	61	Gowrings	86	...	3.3	14.3
205	148	Hands (Philip)	205	+ 5	4.5	12.9
201	142	Headlam	201	...	2.6	17.5
564	258	Heatrae	498	– 1	2.5	18.5
197	87	Hodgkin Tools	154	...	5.6	25.5
163	139	IBA Intl	154	...	1.3	16.9
430	300	Indchannel	418	...	2.6	14.4
216	5	Ross Gp	7½	...	...	...
63½	37½	SEP Intl	61½	...	2.4	20.5
17½	8½	Sellers	12¾	+ ...	...	7.1
74½	38	SLS	71	+ 1	3.3	12.1
266	226	Thrne Products†	249	+ 6	4.8	14.6
273	157	Vardy (Reg)	273	...	2.6	17.5
225	248	Wholesale Pgs	245	...	3.1	14.4
90	54½	Wigmore†	54½	– 1	1.8	13.8
90	56½	Wyko	82	– 1	1.9	...
118	68	Young (H)	117	+ 1	4.3	...

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

175	117	Ashtead	117	...	6.3	9.4
353	235	Ashleigh(Hldg	293	...	1.9	13.8
948	728½	Bntsh Hlds	930	...	2.6	21.0
343	271	Bunzl	340	...	3.5	11.6
562	405	BMT†	571	+ 11	5.0	13.0
270½	144	Berisford Intl	188	– 1	2.9	...
131	71	Bibby (J)†	114	– 1	6.3	...
51½	40½	Brierley Inv	51½	...	6.5	2.6
948	743	Cattle†	870	+ 10	1.4	17.4
314	185	Cookson	309½	– 5½	3.9	19.1
153	100	Crampton Hdg	134	...	5.5	15.1
243½	180½	Hanson†	192½	+ 3	7.8	10.5
192½	135	Hardys Dalfd	138	+ 5	7.6	15.7
378½	335	Hnch Wtmp	378½	...	2.1	20.1
384½	341½	Jardine Mgn	436½	+ 6½	3.7	8.6
37	26	Jourdan (TT)	27	...	9.6	7.3
178	134	Lonrho	175	...	3.2	24.2
173	113	Mcleod Russel†	171	– 1	4.7	14.0
141	92	Tarmac Cnadom	141	...	...	...
601	430	Powell Duffryn†	437½	+ 2½	7.1	10.0
225	151	Rapnes	146	...	7.1	10.0
178	120	Slme Darbyt	164	– 1	2.6	15.0
211	91	Elliott (B)†	108	– 1	3.1	11.5
97	71	Exsomet	94	+ 1	3.2	17.8
184	130½	FKI†	165	...	3.6	15.5
157	119½	Feirgrp†	131	– 2	3.4	14.6
320	1½	Fermin	1½	...	...	...
106	22	Firth Hldg	22½	+ ½	...	22.2
107	55	Gen Cnbert	85	...	4.7	13.1
198	117	Gordon Eng	177	...	4.1	9.6
378	292	Chrwood	305	– 5	5.1	12.3
13¾	10½	Graylshpf	12¾	...	5.1	8.8
89	59	Haden Mach.n	86	– 1	3.5	21.7
200	138	Hadleight†	183	...	2.8	11.9
215	151	Hall Eng	179	+ 4	4.2	...
176	133½	Hsmo	171	+ 4	7.7	22.6
57	38	Hampson Ind	47	...	5.9	10.7
37	19	Hay (Norman)	28	...	...	...
1737	1085	Hall & Smon	1110	...	6.6	13.8
39	28	Hdsrcrsons	39	...	5.0	...
41	28	How Gp	34	...	5.9	...
95	66	Howden	87	– 3	5.0	9.8
219	162	Huntingt	198	...	6.3	16.5
348½	286	IMI	307	– 4	4.4	27.7
81	49½	Johnson & FB	61	...	2.3	13.6
614	499	Johnson Matthy	537	– 4	3.0	15.6
52½	28	Jones Stepnsn	49	– 1	...	...
685	310	Kelsey Ind	575	– 15	3.5	14.6
390	265	Lancat	288	...	3.6	14.2

ELECTRICITY

754½	437½	Elec Midlands	703	– 38	5.3	8.4
978	535	Eastern Elc	974	...	3.6	13.0
142½	611	London Elec	694	– 5	6.1	7.8
1033	871	Manweb	1026	...	6.3	14.0
788	641½	Midlands	788	...	5.0	9.8
561	421½	National Power†	449	+ 1	4.6	9.2
571	457	Nat Power PrPf†	457	– 1	4.5	9.5
709½	445	Northern Elec'V	581	– 2	7.5	5.8
577	513	Nthn Ireland	434	+ 6	4.2	9.5
1305	811	Norweb	1021	– 1	3.5	10.7
1033	457½	PowerGen†	1000	+ 2	3.2	10.2
799½	579½	Powergen (PrPf)†	797	...	4.0	11.5
379	303	Hydro-Elec†	361	+ ½	4.9	10.5
385½	306	Scottish Power	366	+ 1	4.9	10.6
524	344½	Seebourn	522	...	3.5	11.2
521	391½	Sth Wales	505	– 4	4.8	10.2
977	548	Southern Elec	928	– 4	4.8	10.2
741½	465	Yorkshire Elec	685	– 8	5.6	8.6

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

577	382	Acatt	577	...	1.7	21.0
327	67½	Acorn Comp	327	...	...	...
800	625	Admiral	798	+ 5	1.3	20.9
290	195	Alba	280	– 2	2.4	18.1
295½	157½	Amstrad	290	– 5½	1.4	...
88	54	Comput Mx	75	...	3.7	8.4
61	35	Cash (DC)	56	...	3.7	8.4
126	91¼	Dag Motors	126	...	7.1	10.4
1098	899	Diploma†	1008	– 2	4.4	...
1255	913	Electrocompont	1214	+ 6	2.1	24.7
2565	153	Eurotib Elec	255	+ 2	2.1	17.6
1238	64	Eurodollar	82	+ 1	15.3	3.8
138	87	European Mkt	97	...	6.7	8.3
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24½	15	Gardner	17½	...	5.9	7.7
39½	16	Glenchewon	33½	– ½	1.1	...
106	61	Gowrings	86	...	3.3	14.3
205	148	Hands (Philip)	205	+ 5	4.5	12.9
201	142	Headlam	201	...	2.6	17.5
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163	139	IBA Intl	154	...	1.3	16.9
430	300	Indchannel	418	...	2.6	14.4
216	5	Ross Gp	7½	...	...	...
63½	37½	SEP Intl	61½	...	2.4	20.5
17½	8½	Sellers	12¾	+ ...	...	7.1
74½	38	SLS	71	+ 1	3.3	12.1
266	226	Thrne Products†	249	+ 6	4.8	14.6
273	157	Vardy (Reg)	273	...	2.6	17.5
225	248	Wholesale Pgs	245	...	3.1	14.4
90	54½	Wigmore†	54½	– 1	1.8	13.8
90	56½	Wyko	82	– 1	1.9	...
118	68	Young (H)	117	+ 1	4.3	...

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

38	23	AAF Intn	26	– 5	3.8	6.1
294	153	Airflow Streamt	290	– 5	3.5	12.0
49½	41	Amsoil	42	– 5	5.9	...
528	440	Avon Rubber	501	– 2	4.5	...
291	181	BBA	273	...	2.2	...
515	429	BSG†	509	+ ½	2.4	12.2
13	3¼	Bercott Group	5½	+ ½	2.7	...
340	265	Bodycote	308	...	2.6	16.6
24	17	Boosbeck	18	...	7.1	...
37	28	Cmpctblr	34	...	3.0	7.8
113	85	Crosstube	113	...	3.5	14.9
355	270	First Tech	348	– 10	2.1	16.5
630	543	GKN	787	– 10	3.5	16.1
2350	2343½	General Mtr	3243½	– 6½	2.4	...
1307	848	Hanex Motor	1265½	– 31½	6.7	...
344	240	Laird	336	– 2	4.9	14.0
440	345	Loades	405	...	5.2	24.6
212	163	Locker	175	– 2	5.0	53.4
98	53	Maydower	94½	...	3.2	24.6
200	150	Sytone	180	– 3	3.3	17.5
118	54	T & N	116	– 1	4.7	...
378	334	Tinsley Hldgs	339	...	2.8	16.3

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

738	555	AB Foods	723	+ 1	3.0

Though his life is shrouded in legend, Alfred was still a great ruler, says **Peter Ackroyd**

Scholar, Christian and King

The episode of the burnt cakes is of course absurd; it was invented in the 11th century by some ingenious chronicler who realised that fiction has a greater hold over the public and historical imagination than mere fact. But that story does establish the tone in which studies of King Alfred have characteristically been conducted: one of the sections in Alfred Smyth's elaborate and impressive study is entitled "A Thousand Years of Deceit".

It provides a most interesting account of academic scholarship. Until very recently — in fact, until this year — students of English history have been given as a set-text an apparently contemporary life of King Alfred written by a bishop named Asser. Asser's *Life* is quoted and interpreted in all studies of the 9th century, and has been considered to give a unique insight into the life and reign of Alfred the Great. He is portrayed as a "hero-king", a saintly scholar who had understood Latin by miraculous intervention and a warrior who, despite being gravely troubled by a mysterious illness not unrelated to haemorhoids, had fought off the Danes practically single-handed. This was the account taken up by Protestant hagiographers at the time of the Reformation and by 19th-century imperialist historians, intent on fashioning their own idea of England.

In fact, as Professor Smyth coherently and convincingly proves, Asser's *Life* is a tissue of fictions written some 200 years after Alfred's death by a credulous and, in many respects, ignorant monk who plagiarised material from the standard hagiographies of saints and other kings. It is a "sad hotchpotch" of lies and misinformation, designed solely to assert West Saxon authority and power over other parts of England.

Yet, for reasons which Smyth explains in great detail, the most serious and respectable historians continued to regard this meretricious invention as a genuine biographical document dating from Alfred's own reign. Twentieth-century scholars swallowed the propaganda of an early 11th-century monk. As a result, of course, the true figure of Alfred has been enveloped in mist and darkness more profound than the genuine vellelities of England's early history.

Perhaps a few facts are in order. Alfred, born in 847 or 848, was the youngest son of Aethelwulf, King of the West Saxons. He inherited the kingdom at the age of 23, but his first royal experience was that of defeat at the hands of the Danes. For a period he became a Danish vassal or "sub-king", and seems to have expropriated monastic lands and revenues for his own use.

Then, in a decisive battle, his army defeated Guthrum and compelled the warlord to forsake Woden and convert to Christianity. It was Alfred's "finest hour", according to Smyth, and the battle site of Edington (in Wiltshire) should be commemorated for ever as the place where Anglo-Saxon culture was defended and preserved. There is a gap in the Anglo-Saxon *Chronicle*, and little is recorded of Alfred in his years of peace. But the plot resumes with the invasion of Haesten in 892. Eventually the Danish forces retreated into Northumberland, having suffered from Alfred's continual "war of attrition", and perhaps also after being bribed by the King's money.

KING ALFRED THE GREAT
By Alfred P. Smyth
OUP, £25

ALFRED THE GREAT
By David Sturdy
Constable, £18.95

The *Chronicle* itself is silent on this matter of Danegeld, as on so much else, and it is Smyth's contention that the mid-9th-century manuscript was essentially a propaganda vehicle for Alfred's 26-year reign. We must discard any contemporary sense of history and of historical evidence when dealing with these productions; in a Christian civilisation, chronological time is a relatively unimportant concept when compared with spiritual and emblematic truths.

In this context it is interesting to note that Smyth locates the spurious life of Asser within a circle of monks at Ramsey, near Cambridge, who also produced other fictional biographies; the most eminent of these fakers seems to have been Byrhtferth who, in Smyth's words, "resorted to invention and blatant forgery". This "unscrupulous and ruthless forger" was concerned to promote the cult of Arthur and to further the cause of monastic reform. We are accustomed to the romantic forgeries of an Ossian, or a Chatterton, but here we find a group of monks quite deliberately inventing a history of England which would suit their own purposes. What is more surprising, however, is the fact that their accounts have been accepted as genuine for almost a thousand years.

And yet out of this mist of fraud, plagiarism and benighted scholarship Smyth does manage to grasp the elusive figure of the real King named Alfred. This is in every sense a magisterial work, with some 600 pages of detailed and clearly argued narrative.

David Sturdy's account is much shorter, and is perhaps marred by his acceptance of "Asser's precise contemporary evidence". Dr Sturdy was a lecturer in medieval archaeology, and the archaeological sections of his study are the most interesting.

But Smyth has brought together all of the available evidence, and has discovered Alfred to have been "a man of high intelligence, backed by boundless energy". He was also very learned, "steeped in a lifetime of Latin and Old English scholarship", and preoccupied by the cultural past. He had, according to Smyth, "an abiding interest in English history as such". It has often been said that the English are innately antiquarian — Goethe mocked them for it in *Faust* — and Alfred might then be seen as the first great national exemplar of that tradition.

He was not particularly saintly, especially in his appropriation of monastic lands, but he did establish a "translation programme" designed to reproduce the great works of late antiquity in Old English. He himself translated Boethius and Augustine, and gathered scholars around him to work upon Bede, Osorius and others. He seems to have possessed an innate sense of national identity from his earliest years, and it is appropriate that he should have been able to consolidate his power to such an extent that we risk only a little overstatement in calling him the first King of England.

Smyth's book, then, must stand as the definitive account of the reign. Alfred was indeed a "master", who always wished to be remembered as "a great Christian King". Certainly his memory has never faded from the memory of the English people, even if it has generally been perpetuated by legend and falsehood. But now, in Smyth's narrative, he emerges from the darkness at last.



Like the cult of Alfred, that of Arthur was promoted by monks at Ramsey to further the cause of reform: one of Gustave Doré's newly reissued illustrations for Tennyson's *Idylls of the King* (Dover, £7.95 pbk)

Cutting short her long lad

Antonia Fraser

DARNLEY
A Life of Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley, Consort of Mary Queen of Scots
By Caroline Bingham
Constable, £18.95

Who was Henry King of Scots? This historical quiz question might cause even the most hardened contestant to pause and review the possibilities. For example, King Henry VIII attempted to swallow up Scotland in the 1540s in a campaign known, appropriately enough, as the Rough Wooing; did he actually succeed? But the answer is not Henry VIII, nor is it Cardinal Henry Benedict Stuart, brother of Bonnie Prince Charlie, who, for Jacobite legitimists, became King Henry IX after the latter's death. The answer is another Henry Stuart: Lord Darnley, second husband of Mary Queen of Scots, who during their brief marriage was known as King Henry — at any rate in Scotland.

The point is underlined by the fact that the first coinage of the newly married pair was issued in the name of HENRICUS ET MARIA. In fact very few of these coins got into circulation, before the ryal was recalled in favour of an identical coin — but bearing the inscription MARIA ET HENRICUS. Although the reversal of the names on the coin presumably reflected Queen Mary's second thoughts on the subject of her husband's status, it is clear that "Maria" as Queen did not attempt to eject "Henricus" as King altogether. The question of Darnley's exact status is at the heart of their troubled marriage — to say nothing of Darnley's murder at Kirk O'Field.

Caroline Bingham, who is an esteemed writer on Scottish subjects, has had an intelligent idea in writing Darnley's biography (rather than another of the more famous Mary). For her *Darnley* does more than illumine the life of a young man, handsome enough, with some literary talent, but morally distasteful. Bingham is also able to analyse, via Darnley's life, the extraordinary problem that any queen regnant faced over her marriage. It was certainly not a problem that the fascinating, wayward Mary came anywhere near solving — despite three attempts at it. But the successful solution of her cousin Elizabeth I — not to marry at all — was somewhat radical; it meant that the succession inevitably went elsewhere after her death.

By beginning her story with the ramifications of the Tudor family tree, Bingham correctly demonstrates how Darnley's entire life was dominated by his position here. It was his royal Tudor blood, possibly bolstering Mary's claim to the English Throne, which attracted her long before she ever saw "yon long lad". (The temptation for six-foot woman to wed six-foot man, one of the few there were around, must have been irresistible.) It was this same Tudor blood of Darnley's which made the match so irritating to Elizabeth: balked of her prey, with Darnley now kinging it in Scotland, she imprisoned Darnley's mother, Margaret Countess of Lennox, as a lesson to ambitious parents.

Then there was Darnley's position in the Stuart tree. For all but the last months of that short life — he died at the age of 21 — Darnley could claim to be his own wife's heir in Scotland — which should perhaps have made him a supportive consort, but did in fact ignite dangerous dreams of sole command, should his wife die. The birth of Mary and Darnley's son, James, in 1566 was a further dynastic complication, for the appearance of a direct male heir edged out the claims of Darnley, his own father. In this context, Bingham firmly faces the fact that Darnley hoped for the death of Mary (and her unborn child) during the atrocious butchering of her secretary Riccio, carried out in her presence. He was a murderer, and he was murdered in his turn.

The so-called Crown Matrimonial was the prize that Darnley sought. This would not only have given "Henricus" equal powers with "Maria", but also enabled him to reign alone, in the event of her death, regardless of the existence of James, a nearer claimant in blood (as William III did in England after the death of his wife, another Mary). But this Crown Matrimonial was outside Mary's gift: it needed the consent of Parliament. The Scottish nobles were united on very little, although their leaders played Darnley adeptly over the killing of Riccio; but they were quite sure that they did not want the vicious Darnley with supreme royal powers.



Henry, Lord Darnley

The picture painted by Bingham is not such as convinces one that the nobles got it right. She is good on Darnley's literary efforts, putting them in perspective, and as charitable as possible, within the bounds of historical accuracy, about Darnley himself. However, Bingham does not deny that he was recovering from syphilis at the time of his death, nor does she exculpate Darnley from the various charges of brutality and treachery laid at his door by other historians.

One may disagree with Bingham's considered verdict that Mary had foreknowledge of Darnley's death, and hence shared the guilt; why should the assassins tell their Queen in advance about something for which they did not need her co-operation? But it is hard to feel much regret for that slaying, on the evidence Bingham deploys. Henry King of Scots had physical height, but no other kind of stature.

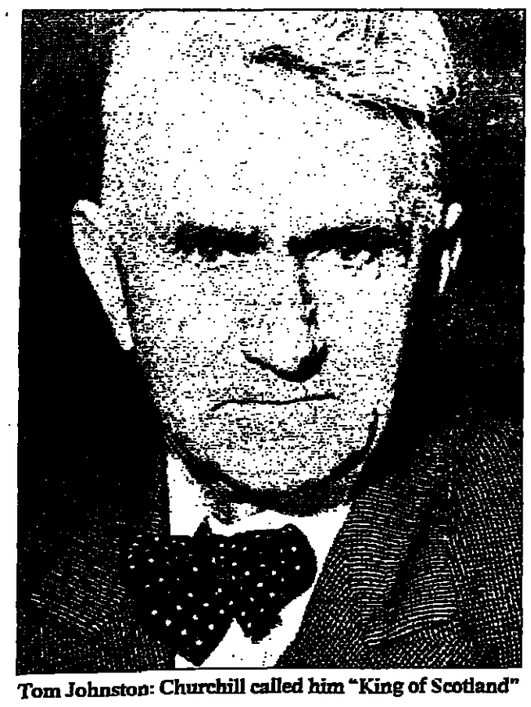
Fiery monarch of the glen

It amused Winston Churchill that his wartime coalition included both the premier duke of England and the rabble-rousing founder editor of *Forward*, the Glasgow-based Socialist weekly. The Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal of England, was Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture. The rather more exalted office of Secretary of State for Scotland was filled by Tom Johnston — radical journalist, Labour politician and scourge of the Scottish aristocracy.

Churchill regarded him highly. "Here's the King of Scotland," he announced when Johnston arrived at a Downing Street reception. It was doubtless said with an impish grin, but the sobriquet could not reasonably have been applied to any of the Crown's North British subjects for the previous 150 years — not since Henry Dundas, "Harry the Ninth", who kept the government machine north of the border oiled for Pitt the Younger.

Johnston had always wanted to write. He founded *Forward* — no gambling news, no advertisements for alcohol — in 1906. For too long, he cried, "the massed forces of reaction, the plunderers, the conservers, the old women in trousers, the farthing reformers have had it all their own way". H.G. Wells wrote for him, and so did Bernard Shaw, Ethel Mannin and Bertrand Russell. Northcliffe tried to lure him to London with a four-figure salary (the equivalent of a six-figure one today), but he wouldn't budge.

He never lacked enemies, mainly because he seldom limited himself to one offensive adjective when two would do the job equally well. Not content to advocate the nationalisation of land, he felt impelled to savage Scottish landowners — "a selfish, ferocious, famishing, unprincipled set of hyenas". It sounded tremendous, even when, as in some of the knottier passages of the Old Testament, the plain prose was elusive. The Scottish aristocracy, he thundered,



Tom Johnston: Churchill called him "King of Scotland"

Ian McIntyre

WITHOUT QUARTER
A Biography of Tom Johnston
By Russell Galbraith
Mainstream, £20

"have pruned the creeds of our Church and stolen its revenues; their mailed fists have crushed the newer thought and their vanities the arts".

He was 41 before he entered Parliament. Beatrice Webb thought him dour, but acknowledged he was "the best of the Clyde lot". Soon he was complaining in *Forward* that Labour was becoming obsessed with the idea of winning power at the next election. "The host that is to march forward to the destruction of capitalism is to be digested as voluntary welfare workers with elastic-sided boots out for an excursion," he wrote bitterly. "The kingdom of man is to come by stealth." Sounds vaguely familiar.

He was briefly in office in the first two Labour Governments, as Scottish Under-Secretary and Lord Privy Seal. He sometimes played hard to get. Offered the Scottish Office in 1940, he said he wanted to stay at home and write history books. "Good heavens, man," an incredulous Churchill growled. "Join me and you can help make history!"

And so he did, both during his four years in the Cabinet and on into his late seventies. The vitriolic and uncompromising wordsmith of earlier days matured into a formidably pragmatic political operator. He got Churchill's agreement to the setting-up of the Scottish Council on Post-War Problems, a small body composed of all his surviving predecessors at St Andrew's House. They gave their minds to everything from hydro-electric development to the needs of the herring industry.

When hospital beds earmarked for civil defence casualties remained mercifully empty, he arranged for them to accommodate ordinary patients who could not afford specialist treatment. He made a major contribution to the White Paper, approved by the War Cabinet in February 1944, outlining a future National Health Service. His commitment to Home Rule was unswerving but realistic. He saw little to commend an assembly in Edinburgh if all it had to administer was "an emigration system, a glorified Poor Law and a graveyard".

After he left politics in 1945, Attlee had to speak sharply to the Inland Revenue — they were pursuing Johnston for tax on the Cabinet minister's salary he had declined to draw. He also declined a peerage and, though more reluctantly, the Order of the Thistle (he would have accepted if he could have remained plain Mr Johnston).

Attlee saw him as a possible viceroy to succeed Wavell, but nothing came of it. Instead, he joined the Forestry Commission, was briefly chairman of the Broadcasting Council for Scotland, effectively created the Scottish Tourist Board and for 13 years ran the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, which he saw as a cousin to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Johnston left few personal papers. It would have been nice to know more about his family life and his friendships. This workmanlike but essentially journalistic account is confined strictly to the public man. Russell Galbraith offers as an epitaph words that Johnston himself borrowed from Macaulay: "When none is for the party, and all are for the State, we get home." He has opened, but not exhausted, a rich biographical seam.

Ian McIntyre's Dirt and Deity: A Life of Robert Burns *was published last month by HarperCollins.*

All created equal — except in talent

IN 1970, says Malcolm Bradbury, the idea of a university course in "creative writing" was regarded in Britain "as a dangerous American invention, like the vacuum cleaner". Nevertheless, he went ahead with his fellow-professor, Angus Wilson, at the brand-new University of East Anglia, and set up an MA in the subject. This year he has retired, and the poet Andrew Motion has taken over his Chair of Creative Writing. So what has been achieved in those 25 years of imaginative word-processing?

Bradbury gives his answer in this book, *Class Work* — a collection of 31 of the best short stories written by students on the course during that time. A prefatory essay by Ian McEwan describes what it was like to be the first person on the course. He was the only person in that first year. Aged 22, he had never written a story. "I suggested I might try out a number of deranged first-person narrators... One of them might trick his kid sister into incest. Bradbury sucked on his pipe and said: 'Try and let me have it before the end of the month'."

Derwent May

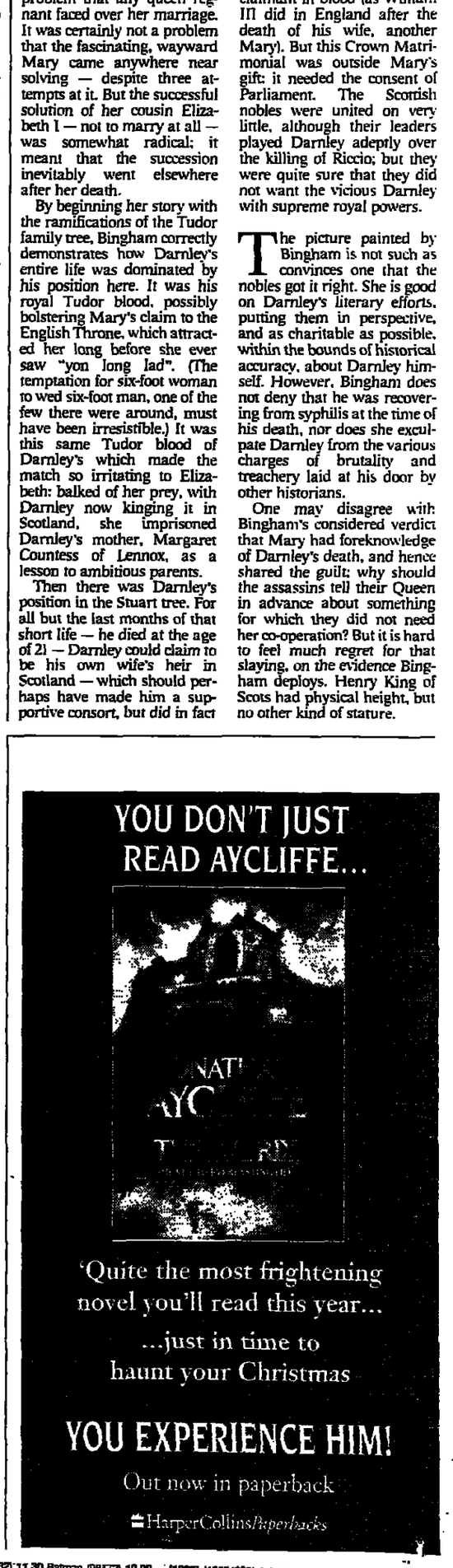
CLASS WORK
Edited by Malcolm Bradbury
Sceptre, £16.99

MCEWAN SUMS UP Bradbury's pedagogic style as "informality, complete lack of interference and carefully muted judgment". It clearly worked with McEwan, as his latest collection, *The Short Stories* (Cape, £9.99), demonstrates. After McEwan's solitary year, more and more students started coming, and other teachers, such as Rose Tremain, joined him. Erica Wagner, who was a student in 1990-91 (and now works at *The Times*), told me that there was still the same air of informality when she was there, but the students were definitely encouraged to concentrate on stories that would sell.

She herself has a deftly written story in *Class Work*, about a sexually tempted clergyman who becomes a lion-tamer in order to escape the jaws of hell, and ends up in some other jaws. Evidently the students got a good training in clear, well-organised writing.

But most of the stories lack much force or originality; which suggests what we all suppose, that writers are born not made. Several of them are about school or college mates who rebel successfully or unsuccessfully; others are tales of what seems like sexual daring to the writers, but does not startle one so much as they suppose. Rose Tremain has a story that is hardly one of her best — it is just a neat little picture of working-class quaintness; even McEwan's brilliant *Solid Geometry* has an air of calculated mischievousness. Among the stories that most struck me were Clare Morgan's *L'Hôtel Des Grands Hommes*, about a would-be woman writer who gets a glimpse of the American writer Raymond Carver in her Paris hotel. Her holiday with her husband is ruined by the agitation it causes her. Jacqui Lofthouse's *The Effigy* is an excellent imaginary monologue by the ghost of the playwright William Congreve, whose mistress the Duchess of Marlborough — to Congreve's great posthumous annoyance — carts a life-size wax statue of him around with her.

It is perhaps a pity that among the students at Norwich there was also — in 1979-80 — Kazuo Ishiguro. He too has a story here, *A Family Supper*, about a young Japanese man returning from California to his father's house in Tokyo. For suspense, subtlety in the telling, and intensity of emotion, it knocks all the others into a cocked hat. Oh, yes — they must be born.



BARGAINS OF THE WEEK

HOLIDAYS

Skiing forth

SKIING holidays in central Switzerland over Christmas are still available from Inntravel. The December 23 Stansted departure for Zurich includes seven nights half-board at the three-star Hotel Edelweiss in Engelberg and costs £766 per person. Details: 01653 628862.

Musical break

A MUSICAL Christmas at The Randolph, Oxford, can be booked for £479 per person for three nights from Christmas Eve. The break includes concerts and carols and tickets to see *Joseph*. Bookings: 01865 247481.

Sparkling visit

CHAMPAGNE breaks over Christmas are on offer from the Rheims tourist office. They include two nights in a two-star hotel, a visit to the Mumm champagne house, city tour and entrance to museums for Fr315 (just over £40). Make your own travel arrangements. Details: 00 33 26774525.

Book ahead

COTTAGE holidays starting at £19 per person for three nights are on offer in January from Country Holidays. Details: 01282 445095.

Eastern nights

KUONI is offering a bargain holiday in Hong Kong with five nights at the Prudential Hotel. Departures from Manchester on January 3 cost £569 and from Heathrow on January 6, £579. The flights are scheduled Cathay Pacific services. Details: 01306 740500.

Peak discount

PONTIN's is offering discounts of between 10 and 20 per cent for people booking next year's holiday before December 31. Bargains include a week's self-catering in peak season for a family of four for £213. Details: 01772 621621.

HOTELS

Special rates

MANY London hotels are offering special room rates over Christmas and the new year. Highlife London and UK Breaks are reducing prices at seven hotels, with a saving of £31 per person at the Hospitality Inn, Bayswater, where a room and full English breakfast will cost £59. Bargain rates at Radisson Edwardian hotels start at £34 per person at The Grafton. Details: 0800 700400/0800 374411.

Swiss fare

HOTEL D'Angleterre in Geneva, reopened after a year-long refurbishment, is offering 20 per cent discounts on normal weekday room rates and 30 per cent at weekends until the end of April. Details: 0800 895950.

On song

WARSAW's top-rated Hotel Bristol, one of the Forte hotels, is offering a special musical weekend for £270 for two people. This includes two nights' accommodation and tickets for the Polish National Opera which is featuring *Romeo and Juliet*, *Rigoletto* and *Don Giovanni* this season. Details: 0171-936 5000.

Special menu

THE MAYFAIR Inter-Continental Hotel in London has introduced a dining card offering 12 meals for £90 in its Chateau restaurant. The only catch is that the budget meal requires two people to be dining at the same time. Buffet lunch costs £11.50 and a three-course set menu is priced at £22.50. Details: 0171-915 2809.

More room

BATH'S Royal Crescent Hotel has expanded its conference facilities by renovating an original Georgian mews house in its grounds to provide two extra meeting rooms with four bedrooms. Details: 01225 739955.

Sleep tight

MOSCOW's Aerostar Hotel has a new service for guests: a Pillow Menu with a choice of eight combinations of different pillows, including duck or goose down and special lumbar support pillows. Reservations (through Utell International): 0990 300200.

FLIGHTS

Pension fun

BRITISH Midland has launched lower fares for travellers aged over 60. Its senior fares cost either £75, £90 or £130 return depending on the route chosen. London-Amsterdam costs £75, Birmingham-Brussels costs £90 and London-Prague costs £130. Passengers are not restricted to a weekend stay and one flight change is allowed. Details: 0345 554554.

Rock-bound

GB AIRWAYS has cut fares to Gibraltar provided the flight is booked by January 3 and taken before February 22. The World Offer return, valid from London or Manchester, costs £139 for midweek and £149 for weekend travel. Details: 0345 222111.

Pick-me-up

WELSH business-class passengers flying KLM to America via Amsterdam qualify for a free chauffeur-driven airport transfer within a 60-mile radius of their home or office. Details: 0181-750 9000.

Go east

FLIGHTBOOKERS is charging £495 for a multi-destination fare covering Dubai, Colombo and Singapore. Flights, departing from London or Manchester, are with scheduled airlines and the fare is valid for bookings made before December 31 for travel during February and March next year. Details: 0171-757 3000.

Shopping trip

CHRISTMAS shopping trips to London are available for £49 return on Jersey European Airways' new Belfast-Stansted service. The offer for day trips only is available until next Tuesday. Details: 01392 360777. (This is the correct number for the airline's reservations service and not the one mistakenly printed last week.)



Why Britons get a better deal

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

BRITISH holidaymakers enjoy the cheapest package deals in Europe. And now a small but growing number of foreigners who have spotted the price gap are travelling to Britain to buy their summer holiday and save hundreds of pounds.

While Britons pay rock-bottom prices for flights and accommodation in their favourite Mediterranean resorts, other nationalities staying in the same hotel may have been charged up to half as much again for two weeks in the sun.

The British bargains are largely the result of too many holidays being offered to a dwindling number of increasingly sophisticated customers. The cut-price holidays are also responsible for the low profit margins in the industry — they have dropped from about £20 per holiday a few years ago to £9 this year. Tour operators are having to withdraw more than a million holidays in an attempt to ensure that "realistic" prices — more in line with those on the Continent — are restored.

The low prices have, however, enabled tour operators and airlines in Britain to boast that they can undercut any competition from within Europe. A detailed *Times* survey, carried out with the help of the market leader Thomson, proves this boast is true.

We compared peak summer prices in a popular four-star hotel in Majorca used by a number of nationalities, and found that the British paid considerably less than anyone else. They also spent more in the bars than any other nationality and were considered to be more friendly and more prepared to join in the hotel's activities.

British clients make up 21 per cent of the customers at the Sa Coma Playa hotel near Cala Millor, Majorca, compared with 44 per cent of Germans, 10 per cent of French and a sprinkling of others. "We charge the tour operator just the same for the room," said Jesus Frasnada, the hotel's sales manager, although his assertion was greeted with scepticism by British tour operators. They insist that competition, their buying power, combined with a long history of fair but tough negotiating helps them to keep the price at rock bottom levels.

But even this does not account for the huge discrepancy in the price of a two-week half-board holiday in the Sa Coma Playa. While a British holidaymaker booking through the Thomson A La Carte brochure paid £807 during last summer's peak season, a German had to find £928, an Italian £1,010 and a holidaymaker arriving from Switzerland paid £1,206 for an identical holiday.

Even a Spanish package holidaymaker flying in from Madrid, a mere 338 miles away, was charged £888, 10 per cent more than his British counterpart who had flown 812 miles from Gatwick.

Air travel represents between 25 and 30 per cent of the total cost of the package and British charter airlines are able to take advantage of the more efficient use of their jets to keep down prices.

If, for example, a Britannia Airways charter Boeing 757 has 235 seats, most other European airlines fly with only 209. British aircraft also operate three round trips a day to Mediterranean resorts. German and other airlines can fly no more than two because their main airports are subject to an earlier curfew.

The Italian and Swiss holiday season is much shorter than that of the British. This enables British tour operators to spread holidays throughout the year, so reducing the overall cost of the operation and enabling lower margins to be made on individual holidays.

Spanish hoteliers believe they have been forced into accepting rates from British tour operators which have been too low for many years and they are now demanding, and getting, price increases of between 5 and 10 per cent for summer 1996.

Martin Brackenbury, chairman of the International Federation of Tour Operators, said: "We are extremely fortunate in Britain that we have the world's most efficient travel industry. We use our aircraft more efficiently and hoteliers give tour operators better rates because the British spend more on the extras while they are abroad.

"The problem is that it could all change if night flying bans are introduced at airports or if passengers demand more leg room in aircraft. At the moment our aircraft can fly three round trips a day but a night noise ban would reduce it to two, just like the Germans now have to contend with."

He believes, however, that the best of the cut-price deals may now be at an end because of the tiny profit margins. "It can't go on like this. If there are not good sales in January, even more holidays will be taken out of the market."

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Sports fans follow the flag to far-flung fields

BY TONY DAWE

PACKAGE tours to see the Bruno-Tyson fight in Las Vegas, football matches in Milan and Madrid and rugby internationals in Paris are being offered by a host of specialist travel companies this week amid a boom in demand for sporting holidays.

The interest in the fight, nearly 6,000 miles away on March 16, comes as thousands take a more traditional sporting holiday: following the England cricket team abroad. Hundreds of English fans are already in Durban for the Third Test against South Africa, which starts today, but thousands more will fly out for the matches over Christmas and new year in Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

David Dryer, whose sports tour company in Woodford, northeast London, is one of those offering trips to Las Vegas, says: "Cricket might be the most popular sport to combine with a holiday but whims and fancies keep changing and boxing and Italian and Spanish football are attracting a wide following. Frank Bruno's personality, the mystique surrounding Mike Tyson and the popularity of Las Vegas as a resort are all creating considerable interest, and as many as 2,000 British fans could make the trip." Four nights in Las Vegas with scheduled return flights costs £599 per person from Mr Dryer's company, and fight tickets, which he can supply, are extra.

A three-day football trip to Barcelona or Madrid costs £299 per person, including tickets for a Spanish championship match. Mr Dryer says: "Visits to top Spanish and Italian league matches have grown in popularity in the past few years."

Graeme Ainslie of VIGB travel, which offers trips to top games in Italy, says: "Our research showed that AC Milan was the team most people wanted to see so we made direct contact with the Berlusconi empire, which runs the club, for tickets. As a result, we can now offer tickets for all parts of the San Siro stadium and, in addition, an incentive group package which includes a trip to an AC Milan training session with a chance to meet players."

With the Five Nations rugby championship beginning next month when England play France in Paris, scores of companies are offering weekends in the French capital, including tickets for the match, at prices of about £500 per person. They include Mike Burton Sports Travel, run by the former England international, which has just launched its brochure for cricket's next extravaganza: the World Cup in the Indian subcontinent next February.

Hugh Clayson, manager of Kuoni's specialist travel division, which is also organising tours to the World Cup, says: "We have already received strong interest in England's next Test series abroad in Zimbabwe and New Zealand."

● *David Dryer Sports Tours 0181-559 8966; VIGB Travel 0171-434 3641; Italiatour 0171-371 1114; Kuoni Sports 01306 744477; Mike Burton Sports Travel 01452 412444; Gullivers Sports Travel 01684 293175.*

Laker returns to transatlantic holiday market

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

SIR Freddie Laker will today unveil detailed plans for his relaunch into the transatlantic travel business — 13 years after the collapse of the original Laker Airways.

Laker Vacations will offer more than 20,000 holidays in the United States using his new American-based airline Laker Airways Inc, which from next March will fly to Orlando up to four times a week from Gatwick, three times from Manchester and once a week from Prestwick. He also plans to operate services twice a week to the popular Florida seaside resort of Fort Lauderdale.

The airline will have 75,000 seats available each year, and return fares will range from £299 to £449 depending on the time of year. Sir Freddie claims confidently that the level of comfort and service on board will be "at least the equivalent of club class on other airlines".

Laker Vacations will sell seat only, fly-drive, villa, hotel and fly-cruise holidays and will fill about 100 of the 350 seats on each of the three McDonnell Douglas DC10 aircraft in the fleet, which is being refurbished in America at a cost of £1.7 million.

The one-class service, to be called Regency — the same name he gave to his business-class cabin on the old airline — will be aimed mainly at tourists, both from America and from Britain. He has shunned business or first class because, he insists, the advent of teleconferencing — using video to link people from around the world — will soon do away with the need for most business travel.



Laker: starting Florida run

During the winter, at least one of the aircraft will operate from America to the Caribbean and South America, then switch to the Atlantic routes during the peak summer months.

Although now aged 73, white-haired and less agile than when he battled with British Airways and others over the collapse of his airline in the early 1980s, Sir Freddie has lost none of his enthusiasm for the business.

"I have only lost money in one year since the war," he announces with pride. "Everything has finally been settled from the legal actions, and I am just looking forward to running a transatlantic airline again."

For the past few years he has been operating regular services from the Bahamas to Miami and he plans to link these, together with additional flights to New Orleans, into the Orlando and Fort Lauderdale "hubs".

Sir Freddie's ambition is to hand over a successful airline to his son, also called Freddie, who is almost 18 and plans to study business management at university.



Giles Shepard: "People are willing to pay the price for a higher level of service"

Putting on the Ritz

BY DAVID CHURCHILL

LONDON'S Ritz Hotel is to get a multimillion-pound facelift over the next two years from its new owners, the Monte Carlo-based Barclay brothers, who bought the Piccadilly landmark for £75 million recently.

The much-needed refurbishment of the hotel's 130 rooms, suites and public areas will be masterminded by Giles Shepard, who has just taken over as the Ritz's managing director.

Mr Shepard's appointment comes a year after he was ousted from a similar role at the Savoy Group of hotels. His departure followed a long campaign by Sir Rocco Forte, Forte's chairman and chief executive, to take a more active role in running the Savoy Group. Mr Shepard believes the outlook for London's top hotels is "particularly strong". "There is no shortage of demand for quality hotels in London," he says. "People and companies are willing to pay the price for a higher level of service, which we think we can provide."

Since he left the Savoy, Mr Shepard has concentrated on a number of directorships, including that of the prestigious Wentworth hotel and golf club. "I may have to give this up, however, in order to concentrate full-time on the Ritz," he says.

The renovation plans for the Ritz will be taken slowly so as not to disrupt guests and visitors to the hotel. Mr Shepard says the hotel, which is 90 years old next May, needs new air-conditioning, and double-glazing in rooms facing Piccadilly. Other changes he hopes to oversee are the reintroduction of upmarket shops in the lobby and possibly a new bar area. "We'll give the place a bit of a spring-clean after Christmas and then take it from there," he says. "Our aim is to restore the Ritz to its full grandeur."

Another ex-Savoy graduate was yesterday named Hotelier of the Year by the magazine *Caterer & Hotelkeeper*. Mr Ricci Obertelli, general manager of the Dorchester Hotel, was awarded the title by his peers in the hotel industry.

Mr Obertelli joined the Dorchester in 1988.

Airports look for duty-free redress

BRITAIN'S biggest airports may be allowed to raise their landing fees and aircraft parking charges to offset an expected £180 million loss of income when duty-free sales are abolished in four years' time, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is to investigate the effect of the proposed abolition of duty-free allowances for travellers within Europe.

The Civil Aviation Authority, which has referred the three London airports owned by BAA to the MMC, says that the loss of duty-free income would be so significant that plans must be made now on how to deal with it.

If an increase in landing fees and other airport charges — which now make up only 41 per cent of BAA's income each year — is approved by the MMC, it is bound to be reflected in higher air fares.

The MMC has six months in which to report to the CAA on what the maximum annual increase in airport charges over the five-year period from April 1, 1997 should be. These charges are now controlled under a formula, known as RPI-X, which means that next year BAA will only be allowed to increase its landing fees and other airport charges by one percentage point less than the rate of inflation.

The CAA has also asked the MMC to advise whether Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted should continue to be regulated as a group or separately, and the effect on the airport operator's income if Heathrow terminal five — now the subject of a long public inquiry — is not given the go-ahead.

The seven airports of the BAA group handled 6.5 million passengers in November, an increase of 6.8 per cent on the same month last year.

Stansted reported a traffic growth of 44 per cent, while scheduled traffic from Gatwick was up by 13 per cent and Heathrow had an increase of 4 per cent in passengers. Flights to the Irish Republic saw the biggest increase at 16 per cent.

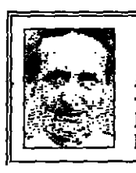
Balpa cries wolf

THERE can be few professions that instil higher public confidence than that of airline pilot. Yet last week Balpa, the pilots union, spent thousands of pounds on advertisements in national newspapers under the banner "Airline Safety at Risk". New rules proposed by the Joint Aviation Authorities, Europe's new safety organisation, would allow maximum crew duty times which, said Balpa, were "unnecessary and dangerous". It urged passengers to write to their MPs because "flight crew are worried and alarmed and you should be too".

What on earth has got into Balpa? The proposed new duty times have been discussed within the industry for many years, and from time to time Balpa has claimed that a longer duty day would lead to pilot fatigue. But never has it gone as far as this — launching a campaign which is nothing short of scaremongering.

Many pilots are deeply embarrassed by the advertisements which even some senior Balpa officials admit are more to do with pay and conditions than safety.

The truth is the European regulator was going to produce new crew-duty rules



The Travel Business
HARVEY ELLIOTT

taking into account the time a pilot starts duty, rest time between flights and monthly and annual flying totals.

But the new proposals, which would in some cases have increased the maximum permitted single duty shift from 13hr 15min to 14hr, have been put on ice pending an announcement due today from the American Federal Aviation Administration.

The US proposals, based on extensive and rigorous research, are expected to set the standard for cockpit crew duty hours throughout the world well into the next century.

Surely this harmonisation of standards makes sense. Passengers need to know that no pilot, from any airline in the world, is working dangerously long hours.

For pilots to react in the hysterical fashion they so often accuse tabloid journalists of adopting helps nobody.

Does Balpa really believe that international safety authorities would deliberately introduce rules which would make aviation unsafe?

In its efforts to protect the interests of its pilots — many of whom earn around £80,000 a year — Balpa has demeaned itself by playing the safety card. Informed debate there must be. But playing on the fears of passengers is unacceptable.

'Ski firm offers free passes

BY GRAHAM DUFFILL

INGHAMS, which offered 28 chalets in the Alps for the first time this winter, is now giving free lift passes to all customers going on holiday from January 20 in an attempt to fill them. Paying at least £100 for every customer's lift-pass on a £400-£500 holiday is an expensive promotion.

Ingham's decision to offer chalets this winter surprised many as it had purchased the middle-market chalet specialist Bladon Lines earlier in the year, and is, effectively, competing against itself.

A spokeswoman for Inghams says: "The lift pass offer is not a panic measure by any means."

Snow has fallen in Austria and Switzerland over the past two days benefiting those resorts which already had enough snow to open runs, but resorts in the southern Alps and France are still able to open only a few runs with the aid of snow cannons.

David Hearns, of the Ski Club of Great Britain, says: "A very stubborn area of high pressure has been sitting over Europe preventing moisture laden air coming in from the Atlantic.

"Some parts of the Alps have got good skiing, especially Austria, where the low lying resorts have between 15cm and 30cm at valley level, and up to 80cm on the high slopes. Andorra and the Pyrenees have started well, Davos and Klosters are among the best in Switzerland, but the high French resorts, which you would expect to have early snow, are still struggling."

● *Inghams 0181-780 4444*

In-flight sales get Air Miles

BY DAVID CHURCHILL

AIR MILES are now being given on all duty and tax-free purchases on British Airways flights as part of the airline's plans to expand its in-flight retail sales.

BA claims that already it is a major international retailer, earning more from its duty and tax-free sales than the £33.5m pre-tax profits reported last year by the Body Shop.

The airline is giving one Air Mile for every £5 spent on in-flight purchases. Air Miles can be redeemed for gifts as well as flights on BA: 100 Air Miles, equivalent to £500 of in-flight shopping, enables two-for-one weekend breaks to be taken at Thistle hotels or free admission to any Tussauds Group attraction, including Alton Towers and Chessington World of Adventures.

The minimum requirement for a free flight on BA is 450 Air Miles. This entitles the collector to a return economy flight to either Paris, Brussels or Jersey. Since the scheme was launched in 1988, some 3.5 million people have registered to collect Air Miles with more than 10,000 free flights taken each week.

BA says that the top selling duty or tax-free items on its aircraft in recent weeks has been gift packs of five miniature fragrances, at £24.50 and a Faber-Castell silver-plated pencil set costing £200. On Concorde a 1976 bottle of Scotch whisky costing £150 sells well.

BA is not alone in finding passengers are doing more in-flight shopping. Other scheduled airlines and charter carriers report rising demand.

French strikes hit travellers

BY STEVE KEENAN

BUSINESS travellers to France continue to suffer massive disruption, with rail and air services again affected today and tomorrow.

There will be no Eurostar trains to Paris for the sixth day running, and airlines expect widespread flight cancellations tomorrow. However, ferries and Le Shuttle are operating normally.

The 19-day-old action by public sector workers has cost the airlines and Eurostar dearly, with air traffic controllers and rail staff joining the dispute last weekend.

Eurostar has been forced to cancel 55 trains since Friday evening. None of its 11 Paris trains will run today, although the six to Brussels are unaffected.

The service is refunding travel or changing travel to a later date, as are the airlines. On Tuesday, one-third of British Airways's services were cancelled, but while near-normal services operated yesterday, BA expects further action from air traffic controllers tomorrow. "We are taking it from day to day," said a spokesman.

The dispute is also affecting regional flights. British Midland operates twice a day from Heathrow to Nice, but air traffic control action on Tuesday closed the Rheims air sector, forcing flights to re-route, causing delays. BA also cancelled seven regional services on Tuesday.

While the airlines and Eurostar suffer, the ferries and Le Shuttle are busy in the annual pre-Christmas shopping spree to France. There has been no disruption this week, except for a one-hour picket of the Tunnel entrance in France on Tuesday, which forced the cancellation of four shuttles.

The ferries went to court in Boulogne last week to obtain orders making protesters liable for losses following a 48-hour blockade of Calais. However, lightning action cannot be ruled out — the *QE2* with 1,000 passengers on board could not call at Le Havre on Tuesday.

All visitors to France should check with their carrier before travelling: Eurostar, 0345 881881; Le Shuttle, 0990 353535; BA, 0345 222111; British Midland, 0345 554554; Air UK, 0345 666777; Air France, 0181-742 6600



Unlucky strike: an egg-spattered policeman faces protesting workers in Paris

Families play truant to cut cost

PARENTS are taking their children out of school early to get cheaper summer holidays in France next year, *writes Steve Keenan.*

The family-based camping and mobile-home market has seen bookings fall for the peak summer holiday periods — but rise sharply for June and early July departures. The cost of a two-week camping holiday in France rises from an average £550 for early July to £800 for late July and August. Families departing in June pay from £300 to £450 while in September, prices plummet to £200.

"People are booking June strongly — which is strange because we are a family market. It must mean people are planning to take children out of school," says John Baines, marketing manager of Keycamp, which is the third biggest operator in a market which saw 600,000 adults and children holiday in France last year. "With things as they are, it is a good opportunity if parents can get a lower-priced holiday." The company has already been forced to cut peak season prices by 5 per cent for bookings made before January 16.

Brittany Ferries confirmed the trend for off-peak holidays in 1996. Operations manager David Longden says: "People are no longer willing to pay the considerable premiums that have been around in the high season. I don't think two weeks out of school affects a child's education."

In 1996, the six-week school holiday period generally begins on July 26 in England, with local variations. A Department for Education and Employment spokesman said yesterday that parents are allowed to apply to schools for dispensation to take their children on two weeks leave of absence for an annual summer holiday, although interference with a child's education should be avoided if possible.

South Africa booms

BY MICHAEL HAMLYN

More than ten million "bed-nights" were booked in South Africa by holidaymakers and businessmen in the first nine months of this year, according to the country's central statistical service.

The figures are well up on last year's 7.6 million bed-nights for the same period, and indicate a trend that will break all previous records for the full year.

More than half the overseas visitors came from Europe, mainly Britain and Germany, with 17 per cent from the rest of Africa and 15 per cent from the Far East.

This boom has encouraged Hyatt hotels to enter the country, and this month a £32 million Park Hyatt has opened in the Johannesburg suburb of Rosebank.

In Sandton, another upmarket northern suburb, work has started on a £38 million, 324-room hotel for Hilton International, and Stocks Hotels and Resorts plans an grand opening for its £24 million, 242-room Michelangelo Hotel next May.

Golden Tulip, the world's tenth biggest hotel group, has formed a South African operation to develop and operate 20 hotels in 1996 and 1997.

But Deon Viljoen, the head of the country's hotel association, warns there are still factors which could slow down the boom. One is a shortage of qualified staff, another the shortage of local investment funds and the need to encourage overseas investment.

"We cannot hide behind the exchange rate for any length of time," says Mr Viljoen.

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Law Report December 14 1995 Court of Appeal

Libel juries can hear submissions on amount of damages

John v MGN Ltd

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Hirst

[Judgment December 12]

It was rightly offensive to public opinion that a plaintiff should recover damages for injury to his reputation which were greater, perhaps by a significant factor, than the sum he might have been awarded for personal injuries rendering him helplessly crippled or insensate.

Changes of practice would be introduced to provide guidance for libel juries in performing their role of assessing compensatory damages, including enabling reference to be made to appropriate awards and brackets of awards. Reference might also be made to conventional personal injury awards, not as an attempt to equiparate awards of damages for personal injury with those for defamation, but so as to check the reasonableness of awards that such juries were proposing to make.

An award of exemplary damages should never exceed the minimum sum necessary to meet its underlying public purpose, namely, that the defendant should be punished, that tort should be shown not to pay and that others should be deterred from acting similarly.

The Court of Appeal so stated, allowing in part an appeal by MGN Ltd, publishers of the *Sunday Mirror* newspaper in which an article had been published on December 27, 1992 in respect of which the plaintiff, Elton Hercules John, had brought an action for defamation.

The newspaper appealed from the jury's award of damages of a total sum of £350,000, comprising £75,000 compensatory damages and £275,000 exemplary damages, following a trial before Mr Justice Drake, sitting with a jury.

The Court of Appeal set aside the jury's award and, substituting its own figure, awarded the plaintiff the total sum of £75,000, comprising £25,000 compensatory damages and £50,000 exemplary damages. The court dismissed the newspaper's appeal against the judge's directions on compensatory and exemplary damages.

Mr Charles Gray, QC and Miss Heather Rogers for the newspaper; Mr Desmond Browne, QC and Mr David Parsons for Mr John.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that it was standard practice for plaintiffs in defamation actions to claim damages and also an injunction against repetition of the publication complained of.

But it was the award of damages, not the grant of an injunction, which was the primary remedy which the law provided: the principles governing awards were accordingly of fundamental importance in ensuring that justice was done to plaintiffs and defendants and that account was taken of such public interests as might be involved.

Compensatory damages

If defamation cases had been routinely tried by judges sitting alone there would doubtless have emerged, as in the field of personal injuries actions, since they had become in practice the exclusive preserve of judges, a more or less coherent framework of awards which would, while recognising the particular features of particular cases, ensure that broadly comparable cases led to broadly comparable awards.

The survival of jury trial in defamation actions had inhibited a similar development. Respect for the constitutional role of the jury in such actions and judicial reluctance to intrude into the area of decision-making reserved to the jury, had traditionally led judges presiding over defamation trials with juries to confine their jury directions to a statement of general principles, eschewing any specific guidance on the appropriate level of general damages in the particular case.

While some distinguished judges (see, for example, dicta of Lord Justice Diplock in *McCarey v Associated Newspapers Ltd (No 2)* ([1965] 2 QB 86, 109)) had considered that juries should be informed in broad terms of the conventional level of personal injury awards, not by way of analogy, but as a check on the reasonableness of the award they were considering, that had not been an authoritative view: see *Broome v Cassell and Co Ltd* ([1972] AC 1027, 1071).

Even in the rare case when a personal injury claim was to be tried by a jury, it was thought inappropriate that a jury should be informed of the conventional level of awards (see *Ward v James* ([1966] 1 QB 273, 302)), a striking departure from the modern practice when judges were sitting alone.

Whatever the theoretical attractions of that approach, its practical disadvantages had become ever more manifest. A series of jury awards in sums wildly disproportionate to any damage conceivably suffered by the plaintiff had given rise to serious and justified criticism of the procedures leading to such awards.

It had not been the fault of the juries. Judges, as they were bound to do, had confined themselves to broad directions of general principle, coupled with injunctions to the jury to be reasonable.

But they gave no guidance on what might be thought reasonable or unreasonable, and it was not altogether surprising that juries lacked an instinctive sense of where to pitch their awards. They were in the position of sheep loosed on an unfenced common, with no shepherd.

The court referred to:

1 *Sutcliffe v Pressdram Ltd* ([1991] 1 QB 153), where the Court of Appeal had reaffirmed the traditional approach but had recommended trial judges to draw juries' attentions to the purchasing power of the awards they were minded to make.

2 The enactment of section 8(2) of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 and to the introduction of Order 59, rule 11(4) of the Rules of the Supreme Court in its present form empowering the Court of Appeal to substitute its own figure on allowing an appeal from a jury award.

3 *Rantzen v Mirror Group Newspapers (1986) Ltd* ([1994] QB 670) where the Court of Appeal concluded that, although at that time reference should not be allowed to awards made by juries in previous cases, awards made by the Court of Appeal stood on a different footing and would in time provide a corpus to which reference could be made in subsequent cases.

Mr Gray had repeated the argument, advanced and rejected in the *Rantzen* case, on the permissibility of referring to levels of awards in personal injury cases, contending that various factors justified reconsideration of that ruling and a different result:

1 That the corpus of experience envisaged in *Rantzen* as a source of guidance had in practice scarcely developed, so that juries still received little assistance from that source.

2 What appeared to be grossly excessive awards continued to be made.

3 That there had been a change of view in the High Court of Australia, with the majority now in favour of permitting reference to personal injury awards in directing libel juries: see *Carson v John Fairfax and Sons Ltd* ((1993) 67 ALJR 634); compare *Coyne v Citizen Finance Ltd* ((1991) 172 CLR 211).

4 That reliance might be placed on article 10 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1953 Cmd 8969), held in *Attorney-General v Guardian Newspapers Ltd (No 2)* ([1990] 1 AC 109) and *Derbyshire County Council v Times Newspapers Ltd* ([1993] AC 534) to coincide with English common law, and the decision of the European Court of Human Rights in *Tolstoy v United Kingdom* (*The Times* July 19, 1995).

The court was persuaded by that argument that the subject deserved reconsideration, despite the short period since the *Rantzen* case. There was continuing evidence of libel awards in sums which appeared so large as to bear no relation to the ordinary values of life.

It served no public purpose to encourage plaintiffs to regard a successful libel action, risky though the process undoubtedly was, as a road to untaxed riches.

Nor was it healthy if any legal process failed to command the respect of lawyer and layman alike, as was regrettably true of the assessment of damages by libel juries.

The subject should be reconsidered. It was not a field in which the court was bound by previous authority (see *Sutcliffe v Pressdram Ltd* (at p178D)) but it was necessary to review the arguments which had found favour in the past.

In considering criticisms of the present lack of guidance given to juries on the issue of compensatory damages, the court had examined four possible changes from present practice:

1 Reference to awards by other juries in comparable defamation actions

The court wholly agreed with the ruling in *Rantzen* that juries should not at present be reminded of previous jury libel awards. They would have been made in the absence of specific judicial guidance and might be unreliable markers.

2 Reference to awards approved or substituted by the Court of Appeal

The court agreed with the ruling in *Rantzen* that reference to such awards might be made. As and when a framework of awards was established that would provide a valuable pointer; but it was plain that such a framework would not be established quickly.

3 Reference to damages in actions for personal injuries

The court referred to the reason given in *Broome v Cassell* for rejecting comparison with awards in such cases. That reasoning would weigh strongly against any attempt to equiparate damages for personal injuries with those for defamation.

It would not weigh so heavily, if at all, against reference to conventional levels of award for personal injuries as a check on the reasonableness of a proposed award for defamation.

In the *Rantzen* case the Court of Appeal essentially adopted the approach in *Broome v Cassell* in concluding that there was no satisfactory way in which conventional awards in personal injury actions could be used to provide guidance for an award in a defamation action.

Much depended, the court now thought, on what was meant by guidance: it was one thing to say, and the court agreed, that there could be no precise equiparation between a serious libel and, say, serious brain damage.

But it was another to point out to a jury considering the award of damages for a serious libel, that the maximum conventional award for pain and suffering and loss of amenity to a plaintiff suffering from severe brain damage was about £125,000 and that that was something of which the jury might take account.

Personal injury awards would not be relied on as any exact guide, and there could, of course, be no precise correlation between loss of a limb or of sight or quadraplegia, and damage to reputation.

But if those personal injuries respectively commanded conventional awards of, at most, about £52,000, £90,000 and £125,000 for pain and suffering and loss of amenity, juries might properly be asked to consider whether the injury to reputation of which the plaintiff complained should fairly justify any greater compensation.

The conventional compensatory scales in personal injury cases had to be taken to represent fair compensation unless and until those scales were amended by the courts or Parliament.

It was rightly offensive to public opinion that a defamation plaintiff should recover damages for injury to reputation greater, perhaps by a significant factor, than if that same plaintiff had been rendered a helpless cripple or an insensate vegetable.

The time had come when judges, and counsel should be free to draw the attention of juries to those comparisons.

4 Reference to an appropriate award and an appropriate bracket

It had been the invariable practice in the past that neither counsel nor the judge could make any suggestion to the jury as to an appropriate award.

That practice was in line with the practice that had been followed in personal injury actions when tried with a jury. In *Ward v James* the Court of Appeal had given reasons why figures should not be mentioned: see also *Sutcliffe v Pressdram Ltd* (at p190).

The court had come to the conclusion that the reasons given were unconvincing.

In personal injury actions it was now commonplace for the advocates on both sides to address the judge in some detail on the quantum of the appropriate award. The judge was not in any way bound by the bracket suggested but found it helpful as a check on his own provisional assessment.

The court could see no reason why the parties' respective counsel in a libel action should not indicate to the jury the level of award which they respectively contended to be appropriate, nor why the judge in directing the jury should not give a similar indication.

The plaintiff would not wish the jury to think that his main object was to make money rather than to clear his name. The defendant would not wish to add insult to injury by underrating the seriousness of the libel.

Thus the figures suggested by responsible counsel were likely to reflect the upper and lower bounds of a realistic bracket. The jury had to make up their own mind and had to be directed to do so. They would not be bound by the submission of counsel or the judge's indication.

If they made an award outside the upper or lower bounds, and the award were the subject of appeal, real weight had to be given to the possibility that their judgment was to be preferred to that of the judge.

Those modest but important changes of practice would not undermine the enduring constitutional position of the libel jury. Historically their significance had not lain in their role of assessing damages but of deciding whether the publication complained of was a libel or not.

The changes now favoured by the court would buttress the constitutional role of the libel jury by rendering their proceedings more rational and so more acceptable to public opinion.

Exemplary damages

The court referred to *Duncan and Neill on Defamation* (second edition (1983) paragraph 18.27) which remained a correct summary of the relevant law and had not been challenged in argument.

The court had been reminded by the newspaper that the award of exemplary damages was regarded as exceptional and in some ways anomalous, and that, since article 10 of the European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms required any restriction on freedom of expression to be prescribed by law and necessary in a democratic society for the protection of reputation, the conditions for making such an award were to be closely scrutinised and rigorously applied.

Certain aspects of the conditions established by authority had been drawn to the court's attention.

1 The state of mind of the defendant publisher, in particular, with regard to recklessness.

Having reviewed the authorities the court stated that the crucial ingredient of that state of mind was a lack of honest or genuine belief in the truth of what was published. That was what made the publisher's conduct so reprehensible as to be deserving of punishment.

Carelessness alone, however extreme, was not enough unless it properly justified an inference that the publisher had no honest belief in the truth of what he published.

The court referred to the jury direction, sanctioned by long usage, based on reference to "reckless, not caring whether the publication be true or false".

It was not incorrect, but the phrase was capable of leading to confusion because the words "not caring" might be equated in the jury's minds with "mere carelessness".

Where therefore exemplary damages were claimed the jury should in future receive some additional guidance to make it clear that before such damages could be awarded they had to be satisfied that the publisher had no genuine belief in the truth of what he published.

The publisher had to have suspected that the words were untrue and to have deliberately refrained from taking obvious steps which, if taken, would have turned suspicion into certainty.

2 The publisher had to have acted in the hope or expectation of material gain. He need not be shown to have made any precise or arithmetical calculation.

But his unlawful conduct had to have been motivated by mercenary considerations, the belief that he would be better off financially if he violated the plaintiff's rights than if he did not, and mere publication of a newspaper for profit was not enough.

The court rejected the argument that in seeking to establish that the necessary conditions had been met the plaintiff had to satisfy the criminal rather than the civil standard of proof.

But a jury should be told that as the charge was grave, so should the proof be clear. Any inference of reprehensible conduct and cynical calculation of mercenary advantage was not to be lightly drawn.

It was only where the conditions for making an exemplary award were satisfied and only when the sum awarded as compensatory damages was not itself sufficient to punish the defendant, show that tort did not pay and deter others from acting similarly, that an award of exemplary damages should be added to the compensatory award.

Clearly the means of the defendant were relevant to the assessment of damages, as were his degree of fault and the amount of any profit he might be shown actually to have made from his unlawful conduct.

The authorities gave judges no help in directing juries on the quantum of exemplary damages. Since such damages were analogous to a criminal penalty, and although paid to the plaintiff played no part in compensating him, principle required that an award should never exceed the minimum sum necessary to meet the underlying public purpose: that of punishing the defendant, showing that tort did not pay and deterring others.

The same result was achieved by the application of article 10. Freedom of speech should not be restricted by awards of exemplary damages save to the extent shown to be strictly necessary for the protection of reputations.

While the European Convention was not a free-standing source of law in the United Kingdom, there was no conflict or discrepancy between article 10 and the common law.

Article 10 reinforced and buttressed the conclusions reached by the court. Those conclusions were reached independently of the Convention, and would have been reached even if the Convention did not exist.

Solicitors: Mr Martin Cruddace, Canary Wharf; Frere Cholmeley Bischoff.

Battered woman syndrome is a relevant consideration for a murder jury

Regina v Thornton

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Hidden and Mrs Justice Ebsworth

[Judgment December 13]

The battered woman syndrome could be a relevant characteristic for the jury's consideration in a murder trial.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated in ordering a retrial of Sara Elizabeth Thornton, who had been convicted at Birmingham Crown Court (Mr Justice Judge and a jury) in 1990 of murdering her husband on June 13 1989, by stabbing him with a kitchen knife. Her appeal in 1991 had been dismissed, and on a reference by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Court of Appeal quashed her conviction and ordered the retrial.

The Lord Chief Justice, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that their Lordships had been told that medical knowledge had progressed considerably since the hearing of the appeal in 1990. Further medical evidence raised her personality disorder for consideration as a relevant characteristic and also raised for consideration the element of battered woman syndrome as a further relevant characteristic for a jury's consideration.

Mr Michael Mansfield, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Edward Fitzgerald, QC, for the appellant; Mr Brian Escott Cox, QC, for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that at trial the defendant did not seek a verdict of not guilty but relied on diminished responsibility to found a verdict of manslaughter.

The defence did not rely on provocation. On the evidence presented to the jury their Lordships did not consider that the decision to concentrate the defence on diminished responsibility could be faulted.

There was no doubt that the appellant had been subjected over a period to violence and abuse by her alcoholic husband and, on her evidence, abuse and threats were levelled at her shortly before the stabbing.

In those circumstances the trial judge considered that he had a duty to leave provocation as an issue for the jury's consideration. He had been clearly right to do so: see *Bullard v The Queen* ([1957] AC 635 and *R v Rossiter* ((1992) 95 Cr App R 326)

The duty to leave provocation to the jury, even when the defence had not relied on it and even when in some cases they might regard it as an embarrassment or distraction, created problems for the judge.

On the first, unsuccessful, appeal criticisms had been made of the trial judge's direction on provocation. Principally it had been submitted that the judge was wrong to direct the jury that, for the defence to succeed, the provocative words or conduct had to have caused in the defendant "a sudden and temporary loss of self-control".

In the present appeal, the established principle of law had quite rightly not been challenged again.

However, since reliance was placed on the appellant's suffering from a battered woman syndrome, their Lordships thought it right to reaffirm the principle: a defendant, even if suffering from that syndrome, could not succeed in relying on provocation unless the jury considered she suffered or might have suffered a sudden and temporary loss of self-control at the time of the killing.

That was not to say that a battered woman syndrome had no relevance to the defence of provocation. The severity of such a syndrome and the extent to which it might have affected a particular defendant would no doubt vary and was for the jury to consider. But it might be relevant in two ways.

1 It might form an important background to whatever triggered the actus reus. A jury might more readily find there was a sudden loss of control triggered by been a minor incident if the defendant had endured abuse over a period, on the "last straw" basis.

2 Depending on the medical evidence, the syndrome might have affected the defendant's personality so as to constitute a significant characteristic relevant to the second question the jury had to consider in regard to provocation.

What was new on the present appeal? Mr Mansfield had sought leave to adduce further medical evidence, put before the court in written form. Its effect was to raise for consideration in relation to the defence of provocation two characteristics which it was suggested, the appellant possessed at the relevant time.

The first was her personality disorder. The second was the effect of the deceased's abuse over a period on her mental make-up.

Mr Mansfield argued that had the further evidence been led at the trial, the jury would have had to be directed to consider whether a reasonable woman with those two characteristics might have lost her self-control and done as the appellant had done.

As it was, the judge, when defining a reasonable woman referred only to a person "sharing her characteristics as you have been able to discover them". He did not explain what characteristics they might find proved and relevant.

The absence of such evidence might well have been due to the state at that time of medical knowledge which, their Lordships were told, had since then progressed considerably. The further medical evidence did raise the appellant's personality disorder for consideration as a relevant characteristic. It raised also the element of battered woman syndrome as a further relevant characteristic.

What characteristics of a defendant should be attributed by the jury to the notional reasonable person, and how far the judge should go in assisting the jury to identify such characteristics were issues which had been clarified in a number of decisions subsequently to the appellant's trial and, indeed, to her first appeal. *R v Humphreys* (unreported, July 7, 1995, CA) and *R v Morhall* (*The Times* July 21, 1995: [1995] 3 WLR 330) made it clear that mental as well as physical characteristics should be taken into account. Moreover, a judge should give directions to the jury what, on the evidence, was capable of amounting to a relevant characteristic.

Their Lordships considered that, if the trial judge had had the assistance of those authorities and of the further evidence their Lordships had had before them, he should and would have given the jury directions as to the two characteristics now relied on.

Their Lordships concluded that the fresh evidence and the clarification of the law to which they had referred cast doubt on the basis of the jury's verdict. They could not, therefore, be sure that the verdict was safe and satisfactory.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co; Crown Prosecution Service, Warwickshire.

Power to appoint arbitrator

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Sutton London Borough Council

As section 68 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowered local authorities to enter into agreements for the transfer, re-transfer or retention of land transferred by operation of law when their respective boundaries were altered, or for the payment of compensation for land so transferred, the Secretary of State for the Environment had power to appoint an arbitrator to make an award in terms which the parties themselves could have agreed.

Mr Justice Potts so stated on November 27 in the Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment on a preliminary issue.

The London Boroughs of Sutton and Croydon were in dispute over valuable freehold properties formerly in Sutton's ownership but transferred to Croydon.

Discussion took place as to whether the land should be transferred back or compensation paid.

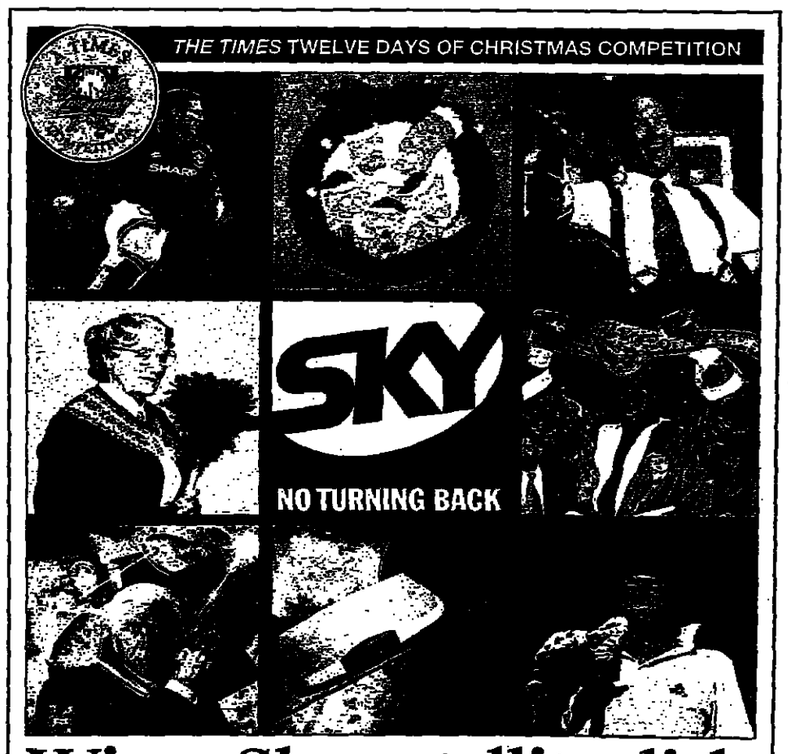
Sutton requested the secretary of state to appoint an arbitrator. Croydon maintained he had no power to appoint.

HIS LORDSHIP said that there was nothing in regulation 62 of the Local Government Area Changes Regulations (SI 1976 No 246) which modified or restricted the operation of section 68.

The provisions of section 68(2) applied both as to agreements which might be made for the transfer of property and agreements which might provide for the making of payments by way of compensation.

The secretary of state was empowered and obliged to appoint an arbitrator in the present case pursuant to section 68(3) of the 1972 Act.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Pride Brewster, Carolyn House, 29/31 Greville Street, London, EC1N 8SB on the 21st December 1995 at 11.00 am for the purpose of having a full statement of the position of the Company's affairs, together with a list of the Creditors of the Company and the estimated amount of their claims, laid before them, and for the purpose, if thought fit, of nominating a Liquidator and appointing a Liquidation Committee.
Proxies to be used at the Meeting must be lodged c/o the Company at 29/31 Greville Street, London, EC1N 8SB not later than 12.00 noon on the last working day before the Meeting. Faxed proxies will be accepted.
Particulars of claims of all creditors, accompanied in the case of a secured creditor (unless he surrenders his security) with a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given, and the value at which he assesses it, should also, for voting purposes be lodged c/o the company at 29/31 Greville Street, London, EC1N 8SB.
Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Clive Robert Hammond of Pride Brewster, 29/31 Greville Street, London, EC1N 8SB is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above Company, and will furnish Creditors, free of charge, with such information as they may reasonably request.
Dated 6th December 1995
By Order of the Board,
J F GATER, Director

FREEWAY TRADE SERVICES LIMITED T/A COLCHESTER TRANSPORT SERVICES
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I Michael J C Oldham, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 6th December 1995.
DATED THIS 6TH DECEMBER 1995.
Michael J C Oldham
Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NO. 0531 of 1995
CHANCERY DIVISION
MANCHESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF SETON HEALTHCARE GROUP plc
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 1st December 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company by £47 million for the purpose of enabling the same to be credited to a special capital reserve in the books of account of the said Company.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before The Honourable Judge on the Motion Day on Tuesday the 16th day of January 1996 at 10.30a.m. at the Courts of Justice, Crown Square, Manchester M60 9DJ
ANY CREDITOR or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the said Share Premium Account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 14th day of December 1995
Kuit, Steinart, Levy of 5, St. Mary's Parsonage, Manchester, M3 2RD
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Berwick Street Group Limited (IN LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that a first & final dividend will be paid within a period of four months from the last date of proving. The last date for creditors to prove claims in this liquidation is 9th January 1996.
Creditors of the above named Company should send their addresses, descriptions and full particulars of their debt or claims to K. D. Goodman, FCA, Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 893, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 8LF, under Rule 11.3(2) a Liquidator is not obliged to deal with claims lodged after the date of proving.
DATED THIS 6th day of December 1995.
K D GOODMAN LIQUIDATOR

DOMINION ASSOCIATED LEASING LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION) ("the Company")
NOTICE OF SECOND CREDITORS' MEETING RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATORS' PROPOSAL FOR A COMPANY VOLUNTARY ARRANGEMENT UNDER PART 1 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to section 3 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that the Second Meeting of the Company will be held at 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on 5 January 1996 at 10.30 am for the purpose of considering the Administrators' Proposal for a Voluntary Arrangement dated 11 December 1995 and, if thought fit, passing the following resolution:-
THAT the Voluntary Arrangement upon the terms of the document headed "Proposal by the Administrators for a Voluntary Arrangement pursuant to Part I of the Insolvency Act 1986" dated 11 December 1995 (hereinafter referred to as "the Voluntary Arrangement") (a copy of which has been submitted to this Meeting and signed by the Chairman for the purpose of identification) be and is hereby approved and that STEPHEN STRICKLAND JAMES of KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP be and he is hereby by this resolution appointed to act as Supervisor of the Voluntary Arrangement for the purpose of supervising its implementation.
DATED the 11th day of December 1995.
Stephen E. James,
NOMINEE

GOODING INVESTMENTS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named company will be held at the offices of Cork Gully, Bull Wharf, Redcliff Street, Bristol, BS1 6QR on 22 December 1995 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm at Bull Wharf, Redcliff Street, Bristol, BS1 6QR on 20 and 21 December 1995
DATED : 12 December 1995
By Order of the Board
A J GOODING, Director

DOMINION CREDIT & FINANCE LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATION) ("the Company")
NOTICE OF SECOND CREDITORS' MEETING RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATORS' PROPOSAL FOR A COMPANY VOLUNTARY ARRANGEMENT UNDER PART I OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to section 3 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Creditors' Meeting of the Company will be held at 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on 5 January 1996 at 10.00 am for the purpose of considering the Administrators' Proposal for a Voluntary Arrangement dated 11 December 1995 and, if thought fit, passing the following resolution:-
THAT the Voluntary Arrangement upon the terms of the document headed "Proposal by the Administrators for a Voluntary Arrangement pursuant to Part I of the Insolvency Act 1986" dated 11 December 1995 (hereinafter referred to as "the Voluntary Arrangement") (a copy of which has been submitted to this Meeting and signed by the Chairman for the purpose of identification) be and is by this resolution approved and that STEPHEN STRICKLAND JAMES of KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP be and he is hereby by this resolution appointed to act as Supervisor of the Voluntary Arrangement for the purpose of supervising its implementation.
DATED the 11th day of December 1995.
Stephen E. James
NOMINEE

No. 007103 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE ONSCABE GROUP LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice Chancery Division dated the 6th day of December 1995 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named company by £741,369.30 and the reduction of the capital of the company from £2,500,000 to £1,125,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 7th December 1995.
Dated this thirteenth day of December 1995
Osborne Clarke 6-9 Middle Street London EC1A 7JA
Solicitors for the above named Company
Tel. 0171 600 0156
Ref: SPF/JAJ

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
PENRYN LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 23(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above-named company will be held at The Lake Hotel, 224 London Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire on Wednesday 20 December 1995 at 10.00a.m. to consider the Joint Administrators proposals.
Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged at Tarrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD no later than 12.00 noon on the 19th day of December 1995.
Rule 2.2(1) Subject as follows, at a meeting of creditors in Administration proceedings a person is entitled to vote on if:
a) he has given to the Administrators, not later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt which he claims to be due to him from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the following provisions of this rule, and
b) there has been lodged with the Administrators any proxy which he intends to be used on his behalf.
DATED this 5th day of December 1995.
N I HAMILTON-SMITH AND M W YOUNG, Joint Administrators

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
TREDVILLE LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of Trevville Limited will be held at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on Wednesday 10 January 1996 at 10.00am. This will be followed at 11.00am by a general meeting of the shareholders.
The purpose of the meetings, which are called under the provision of section 105 of the Insolvency Act 1986 is to receive an account of the acts and dealings of the liquidators and the conduct of the liquidation during the year ended 10 October 1995
No formal voting is anticipated at the meetings, but a creditor or shareholder wishing to vote at a meeting must complete and lodge with me the enclosed proxy form, unless the creditor is an individual attending the meeting personally or a company authorising a representative under the provisions of section 246 of the Companies Act 1985.
A creditor who has not yet submitted a claim who wishes to vote at the meeting whether in person, by proxy or in some other way, must do so before the meeting
Alan John Barrett
Liquidator
6 December 1995

PUBLIC NOTICES

NIGEL ANDERSON petice for divorce proceedings 18/12/95, wife MICHELLE ANDERSON, Western Australia.

هكذا من الأصل

Watkins hovers in wings as pressure builds on McCloy

By Richard Evans, Racing Journalist of the Year

GUY WATKINS, chief executive of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club, has been approached about taking over as chairman of the British Horseracing Board's (BHB) industry committee in the event of Matthew McCloy resigning.

Watkins, who returns to Britain this spring after ten years running racing in the colony, has had informal talks with at least two respected figures in British racing inside the past month during which he indicated a willingness to become involved in racing politics here.

However, Watkins has made it clear he would not wish to become embroiled in a potentially bitter election for the influential job or full membership of the BHB. If, on the other hand, the chairmanship become vacant and his considerable experience and talents were regarded as being of use, he would be interested in serving on the Board.

The possibility of Watkins allowing his name to go forward emerged as McCloy yesterday held talks with Tristram Ricketts, chief executive of the BHB, and others concerning his own future on the BHB. McCloy is under growing pressure to step down as chairman of the industry committee after his much-publicised arrest in the United States last month.

Although it is known some senior BHB figures believe, privately, that McCloy should do the decent thing and "fall on his sword", it would appear the Newbury-based lawyer is hopeful of seeing off his critics.

McCloy's will faces its sternest test this morning in London where he chairs the annual BHB industry committee forum. It is expected that Guy Harwood, the Pulborough trainer, will seek to question the Newbury-based lawyer over the events surrounding his arrest.

Critics of McCloy, who have questioned whether he should represent British racing after the American episode, are adamant some straightforward answers are required today. Above all, they believe McCloy must not brush the issue aside on an occasion which is held specifically to underline the democratic accountability of the BHB.

McCloy was co-opted on to the full board, but without a vote, when he was elected chairman of the industry committee earlier this year. However, the board, chaired by Lord Hartington, does have the power to "unco-opt" him at will. Similarly, the industry committee could effectively sack McCloy as chairman if it so wished.

Until now, McCloy has enjoyed the overwhelming support of the indstury committee, whose members represent a wide sweep of racing interests, including vets, stable lads, jockeys, racegoers, bloodstock agents, amateur riders, point-to-point, breeders and trainers. It is known that some of his supporters are wavering but provided he retains the backing of a majority — and that appeared likely last night — he may be able to survive.

While the McCloy issue is in danger of dominating the forum, trainers and breeders are likely to step up their campaign to have direct representation on the BHB, rather than relying on the three industry committee directors.

David Gibson, the outgoing president of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, articulated the concerns yesterday. "Any new authority, such as the BHB, should re-examine its performance and structure after a breaking-in period and now is the time for such a review."

Important issues and concerns raised by trainers and breeders on the industry committee could be "punctured with the nod of a head by the part-time or hobby players."

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: VIARDOT
(2.40 Towcester)
NB: Mandys Mantino
(12.10 Towcester)



Cap Juluca, ridden by Richard Hughes, gamely makes all to defy top weight in last season's Cambridgeshire at Newmarket

The Tote to sponsor Cambridgeshire

THE Horserace Totalisator Board (Tote) yesterday announced it is to take over the sponsorship of the Cambridgeshire and the Chester Cup. The races, each with £50,000 added, became available when bookmakers William Hill (Cambridgeshire) and Ladbrokes (Chester Cup) recently decided to reduce their sponsorship commitments.

The move means that the Tote has the monopoly on the big Autumn Double at Newmarket as they have supported the second leg, the Cesarewitch, since 1978.

Commenting on the deal, Lord Wyatt, the Tote chairman, said: "The Autumn Double events and the Chester Cup are very competitive betting races and fit well into our overall sponsorship programme."

The Cambridgeshire and the Cesarewitch consistently figure at the head of the monthly list of top ten betting turnover races.

The £50,000 Tote Chester Cup, the centrepiece of Chester's May meeting, will replace the Tote Silver Trophy, which the Tote previously sponsored on the opening day.

The Tote now sponsors three of the season's most competitive long-distance handicaps, the Chester Cup (2¼ miles), the Tote Ebor (1¾ miles) and the Tote Cesarewitch (2¼ miles).

Other highlights of the Tote's 1996 sponsorship include the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury in February, the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup and the two big handicaps at Ascot's Autumn Festival.

The Tote's overall sponsorship programme in 1996, comprising over 70 races, will be worth £949,400 compared with £861,862 this year. In the last ten years the Tote's sponsorship programme has increased by over 350 per cent.

The 1997 Vodafone Derby, for which the yearling entry closed last Wednesday, has attracted a total of 552 entries at a cost of £250 each. There is a second entry option for horses not entered as yearlings on April 9, 1997 at a cost of £8,000.

In numerical terms, Sheikh Mohammed has the strongest hand with 80 entries, while the Aga Khan has made 27 entries without naming trainers for his nominations.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Exeter

Going: good, good to firm in places

12.45 (2m 2f hdle) 1. Fleur De Tal (T Murphy, 7-2); 2. Little Hooligan (16-1); 3. Nordic Valley (8-11 fav). 10 ran. NR: Duality. 1¾l, hd. W G M Turner. Tote: £6.30; £2.20, £1.90, £1.00. DF: £35.80. Trio: £10.80. CSF: £50.40.

1.15 (2m 2f ch) 1. Nemuro (P Holley, 7-1); 2. Trying Again (13-8 fav); 3. Ground Nut (7-1). 13 ran. 5l, 9l. D Elsworth. Tote: £8.80; £2.20, £1.60, £3.10. DF: £9.60. Trio: £25.50. CSF: £17.45.

1.45 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1. Crosa's Delight (D Bridgwater, 9-2 jt-fav); 2. Mr Playfull (8-1); 3. Mildred Sophia (10-1). Unsuspicious 9-2 jt-fav. 13 ran. 14l, 5l. M Pipe. Tote: £7.10; £2.40, £2.70, £2.80. DF: £41.80. Trio: £94.80. CSF: £43.77. Tricast: £336.57. No bid.

2.15 (2m 7f 110yd ch) 1. Bishops Island (G F Ryan, 20-1); 2. Staunch Rival (11-2); 3. Romany Creek (4-5 fav). 6 ran. 5l, 12l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £15.60; £4.30, £1.80. DF: £33.70. CSF: £103.78.

2.45 (2m 2f hdle) 1. Perhaps (G F Ryan, 9-4 fav); 2. General Tonic (12-1); 3. Royal Ag Nag (9-1); 4. Prairie Grove (14-1). 18 ran. NR: Lugs Brannigan. 5l, hd. Miss H Knight. Tote: £3.40; £1.10, £3.50, £1.70, £2.60. DF: £38.10. Trio: £200.40. CSF: £30.57. Tricast: £207.53.

3.15 (2m 2f hdle) 1. Bookcase (A Procter, 9-4 fav); 2. Keep Me In Mind (10-1); 3. Lucky Blue (7-1). 10 ran. Hd, 11l. D Elsworth. Tote: £3.30; £2.10, £3.20, £2.10. DF: £22.90. Trio: £34.20. CSF: £24.24. Tricast: £129.84.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £19,289.44 carried forward to Towcester today).

Placepot: £114.50. Quadpot: £139.60 (part won; pool of £56.61 carried forward to Towcester today).

Bangor

Going: good to soft (chase course); good (hurdles)

12.30 (2m 1f hdle) 1. Hamilton Silk (B Harding, 10-1); 2. Granique (7-1); 3. Roscommon Lad (100-1). Ballyrag 5-2 fav. 18 ran. 1¼l, 20l. M Meagher. Tote: £14.40; £2.90, £3.80, £19.60. DF: £31.60. Trio: £147.70 (part won; pool of £156.11 carried forward to 2.40 at Towcester today). CSF: £66.13. Bought in 10,500 gns.

1.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1. Distinctive (C Llewellyn, 10-1); 2. Change The Act (8-1); 3. Precipice Run (7-2). Waterford Castle 5-2 fav (f). 9 ran. ½l, 5l. M Wilkinson. Tote: £10.70; £2.00, £2.90, £1.70. DF: £45.20. Trio: £26.50. CSF: £76.41. Tricast: £301.60.

1.30 (3m hdle) 1. Pharanear (W Marston, 15-8 fav); 2. Desington Dene (13-2); 3. Happy Horse (50-1). 8 ran. 3½l, 4l. D Nicholson. Tote: £3.30; £1.90, £2.10, £2.30. DF: £17.10. CSF: £13.87. Tricast: £409.32.

2.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1. Even Blue (D McCain, 25-1); 2. Parsons Boy (20-1); 3. Hawkfield (8-1). Hebridean 2-9 fav (f). 9 ran. NR: Lobster Cottage. 8l, ¾l. Mrs C Black. Tote: £29.90; £3.20, £2.80, £1.40. DF: £52.80. Trio: £155.20. CSF: £341.23.

2.30 (2m 1f hdle) 1. Chris's Glen (Guy Lewis, 7-1); 2. Steadfast Elite (9-4 fav); 3. Old Money (50-1). 11 ran. Nk, sh hd. J Bradley. Tote: £6.60; £2.00, £1.60, £12.20. DF: £8.40. Trio: £115.80. CSF: £20.92. Tricast: £649.05.

3.00 (4m 1f ch) 1. Nazzaro (A Thornton, 6-1); 2. Sunley Bay (14-1); 3. Keano (4-1). Florida Sky 3-1 fav (pu). 12 ran. 8l, 5l. W G M Turner. Tote: £10.30; £2.90, £2.10, £2.00. DF: £53.30. Trio: £114.30. CSF: £77.76. Tricast: £341.97.

3.30 (2m 1f flat race) 1. Pilkington (S Curran, 20-1); 2. The Stitcher (4-1); 3. My Cheeky Man (7-1). Golden Drum 5-2 fav. 17 ran. 2½l, 9l. Mrs H Parrott. Tote: £21.20; £5.10, £2.50, £2.60. DF: £91.50. Trio: £270.80 (part won, pool of £236.32 carried forward to Towcester today). CSF: £100.85.

Placepot: £912.70. Quadpot: £9.30.

TOWCESTER SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Nicholson, 13 winners from 40 runners, 32.5%; O Brennan, 25 from 99, 25.3%; C Brooks, 7 from 28, 25.0%; Mrs J Pitman, 11 from 47, 23.4%; J Old, 7 from 35, 20.0%; J Edwards, 5 from 25, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: M Brennan, 25 winners from 92 rides, 27.2%; D O'Sullivan, 3 from 13, 23.1%; T Jenks, 4 from 19, 21.1%; W Marston, 10 from 55, 18.2%; G Bradley, 5 from 33, 15.2%; M Richards, 5 from 33, 15.2%.

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TOWCESTER

THUNDERER

12.10 Mandys Mantino. 12.40 Bankonit. 1.10 CALL IT A DAY (nap). 1.40 Maitre De Musique. 2.10 Taramoss. 2.40 Viardot. 3.10 Dont Tell The Wife. 3.40 Boss's Bank.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 12.10 **MANDYS MANTINO.**

GOING: SOFT SIS

12.10 BLUE RIBBON NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,478: 2m) (16 runners)

101 30-21 BUTTERCUP JOE 15 (S) (R Fates) D Nicholson 5-11-5 R Johnson (3) 84
102 11 MANDYS MANTINO 33 (D,F,G) (J Plackett) J Gifford 5-11-5 P Hide
103 21-5 AROUND THE GALE 13 (S) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 4-10-12 M Dwyer 72
104 0-P BISHOPS TALE 13 (Highflyers) G Balding 5-10-12 A Tory –
105 CORALETTE (Lady Lloyd Webber) N Henderson 5-10-12 M A Fitzgerald –
106 4-6 JET RULES 36 (Jet Stationery Co Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-12 W Marston 66
107 5-2 KINGDOM OF SHADES 14 (R Ogden) A Turnell 5-10-12 P Carberry 91
108 0P NATIVE RAMBLER 12 (R Cox) Mrs M McCourt 5-10-12 G McCourt –
109 0350- NO FIDDLING 272 (M Bachelor) M Wilkinson 4-10-12 R Supple 65
110 00 STARLIGHT FLYER 14 (B) (T Waters) J Long 8-10-12 R Rowell –
111 SUPREME SPIRIT (F Haggas) Mrs D Hame 6-10-12 J F Titley –
112 0/PP- THE ELOPER 267 (Miss E England) Miss E England 7-10-12 M Richards –
113 0-0 TURSAL 12 (T Donnelly) T Donnelly 6-10-12 T Eley –
114 UPPER CLASS (W Coleman) A Turnell 4-10-12 S McNeill –
115 1416- DARK PHOENIX 216 (G) (Mrs P Brennan) O Brennan 5-10-7 M Brennan –
116 5035-P6 SCAMALLACH 8 (Mrs S McCarthy) J Jenkins 5-10-7 G Bradley 74

BETTING: 6-4 Mandys Mantino, 5-2 Buttercup Joe, 5-1 Kingdom Of Shades, 8-1 Around The Gale, Coralette, 10-1 No Fiddling, 12-1 Dark Phoenix, 16-1 others

1994: FALMBUTH BAY 5-10-12 J Osborne (5-6 fav) S Sherwood 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

BUTTERCUP JOE beat Mr Kermit 5l in 16-runner novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). MANDYS MANTINO beat Call Equiname 5l in grade II Flowers Fine Ales Novices' Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good). AROUND THE GALE 19¾l 5th of 18 to High Learie in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, good to soft) with BISHOPS TALE pulled up before 5th. JET RULES 32l 6th of 10 to Strong Promise in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good) with STARLIGHT FLYER 72l 9th. KINGDOM OF SHADES ¾l 2nd of 19 to Dreymiento in novice hurdle at Leicester (2m, good to soft). NO FIDDLING best effort last season when 7¼l 3rd of 15 to Stompin in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft). DARK PHOENIX beat Cool As A Cucumber 1¼l in Sedgefield National Hunt Flat race (2m 110yd, good) penultimate start.
Selection: KINGDOM OF SHADES

12.40 BERKELEY BURKE BESPOKE BROKERS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,010: 2m) (11 runners)

201 315504 CELCIUS 13 (B,D,F,G,S) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 11-12-0 D Bridgwater 95
202 3543P-0 BANKONIT 13 (V,D,S) (The Kick On Partnership) P Burgoyne 7-11-7 I Lawrence 91
203 663-601 EDWARD SEYMOUR 14 (D,S) (W Jenks) W Jenks 8-11-2 Mr R Burton (7) 98
204 1-6005 NEVEROLD 3 (D,S) (T Segrue) M Ahern 5-11-0 M A Fitzgerald –
205 2/00/0 SHOOTING LODGE 6 (Mrs T McCoubrey) J Jenkins 7-10-13 D Yellowlees (7) –
206 44/31/4- NIDOMI 369 (V,F) (D Leon) G Enright 8-10-12 J R Kavanagh –
207 3/60-0P5 HAWTHORNE GLEN 14 (CD,F) (Mrs G Davison) Mrs M Long 8-10-10 B Fenton (5) 97
208 0-410 SEE YOU ALWAYS 10 (B,CD,F) (Miss B Murphy) G Charles-Jones 5-10-10 W McFarland 94
209 2026-00 COBB GATE 28 (B,D,G) (B Stevens) B Stevens 7-10-9 M Stevens
210 000/00 THE TARTAN DYER 12 (W Bethell) W Bethell 8-10-0 A S Smith 85
211 PP0 BAY BOB 14 (B) (R Bache) T Casey 6-10-0 E Murphy –

Long handicap: The Tartan Dyer 9-10, Bay Bob 9-7.

BETTING: 3-1 Edward Seymour, 7-2 Celcius, 9-2 Bankonit, 6-1 Neverold, 7-1 Hawthorne Glen, 8-1 Nidomi, 10-1 See You Always, 12-1 Cobb Gate, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CELCIUS 27l 4th of 15 to Spring Saint in Exeter handicap hurdle (2m 2f, good to soft) with BANKONIT (1lb better off) 31l 11th. BANKONIT best effort last season when 5l 3rd of 8 to Mariner's Air in course and distance handicap hurdle (heavy). EDWARD SEYMOUR beat Clod Hopper ¾l in 17-runner selling handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) with HAWTHORNE GLEN (11lb better off) 31l 5th. NIDOMI 39l last of 4 to Hawaiian Youth in handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). SEE YOU ALWAYS beat Little Tincture 1l in 5-runner selling hurdle over course and distance (firm) penultimate start.
Selection: BANKONIT

1.10 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £4,346: 2m 6f) (10 runners)

301 01135-1 CALL IT A DAY 12 (S) (Mrs J Lane) D Nicholson 5-11-7 D Bridgwater 95
302 1334-1 MAJOR SUMMIT 19 (G,S) (A Weller) J Gifford 5-11-7 P Hide
303 21534-P FOX CHAPEL 12 (B,G,S) (B Hine) R Juckes 8-11-0 A Thornton –
304 1/2106-2 FUZZY LOGIC 29 (G,S) (Cheltenham Racing Ltd) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-0 C Llewellyn 79
305 0/ MYSTIC MANNA 1332 (Mrs C Allsopp) A Turnell 9-11-0 G Crone (7) –
306 ROXBURGH HOUSE (M Aitken/W & J Craig/C Meredith) G Balding 6-11-0 B Clifford –
307 6P/0U3U SPA KELLY 9 (J Pickering) J Pickering 7-11-0 M Sharratt –
308 P4F335- WOODLANDS POWER 240 (Woodlands Ltd) P Pritchard 7-11-0 R Davis 52
309 415/645- LAY IT OFF 241 (F) (J O'Neill) J O'Neill 6-10-9 S Curran (3) –
310 060/0-20 PARSONS BELLE 9 (Mrs P Brennan) O Brennan 7-10-9 M Brennan –

BETTING: 5-4 Major Summit, 7-4 Call It A Day, 7-2 Fuzzy Logic, 12-1 Parsons Belle, 14-1 Woodlands Power, Fox Chapel, 20-1 others

1994: SWEET DUKE 7-12-0 D Bridgwater (4-5 fav) N Twiston-Davies 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CALL IT A DAY beat Bond Jnr 20l in 8-runner novice chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). MAJOR SUMMIT beat Berude Not To short-head in 4-runner conditions chase at Newbury (2m 4f, soft). FUZZY LOGIC 4l 2nd of 7 to Stoney Burke in novice chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, good). SPA KELLY losing touch when unseated rider 11th. WOODLANDS POWER best effort last season when 25l 3rd of 4 to Fast Thoughts in handicap chase here (3m 1f, good to soft), March 1995. PARSONS BELLE 10l 2nd of 8 to Bobbie Magee in conditions chase at Kilbeggan (2m 5f, good to firm) penultimate start.
Selection: FUZZY LOGIC

1.40 BLUE RIBBON NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,478: 2m) (15 runners)

401 P-3 AN SPAILPIN FANACH 140 (K Styles) M McCormack 6-10-12 D Bridgwater 59
402 322-001 ARCTIC LIFE 12 (CD,S) (Mrs T McCoubrey) J Jenkins 6-10-12 J Osborne
403 00/26- BE BRAVE 229 (Mrs S Parsons) T Etherington 5-10-12 A Thornton –
404 50883/0- DOMINOS RING 279 (Mrs J Carrington) O Brennan 6-10-12 M Brennan –
405 02 DREAM RIDE 22 (G Mordaunt & C Clarke) D Nicholson 5-10-12 W Marston –
406 2P ETHBAAT 7 (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 4-10-12 M Richards 92
407 5 ISMENO 19 (Mrs A Upsdell) S Dow 4-10-12 A Dicken 84
408 10-0 MAITRE DE MUSIQUE 19 (S) (R Ogden) A Turnell 4-10-12 P Carberry 70
409 MASTER PANGLOSS (Equity Steeplechasing) A Turnell 5-10-12 S McNeill –
410 3 PA D'OR 22 (BF) (J Stafford) J Gifford 5-10-12 P Hide –
411 5-6 PILGRIM'S MISSION 24 (BF) (J Kinsar) G Balding 5-10-12 B Clifford –
412 P-0 STORMING ROY 33 (J Adam) A Turnell 5-10-12 L Harvey –
413 11- VENDOON 376 (G,S) (M Davies) M Heaton-Ellis 5-10-12 B Powell –
414 D00/0P- ANNS REQUEST 194 (Miss A Nash) J Long 6-10-7 R Rowell –
415 WICKENS ONE (M Clarke) D Geraghty 5-10-7 R Supple –

BETTING: 3-1 Pa D'Or, 4-1 Arctic Life, 5-1 Ismeno, 6-1 Ethbaat, 7-1 Maitre De Musique, 8-1 Dream Ride, Pilgrim's Mission, 12-1 Master Pangloss, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

ARCTIC LIFE beat Eulogy 10l in 10-runner conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft). DREAM RIDE 3½l 2nd of 11 to Chaprassi in National Hunt Flat race at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft). ETHBAAT 3½l 2nd of 7 to Trade Wind in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to firm) penultimate start. ISMENO 16l 5th of 13 to Shaskar in novice hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, heavy) with MAITRE DE MUSIQUE 7l 7th. PA D'OR 17l 3rd to Dictum in National Hunt Flat race at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft). VENDOON beat Slush Puppy 1½l in 18-runner National Hunt Flat race at Fairyhouse (2m, yielding).
Selection: ARCTIC LIFE (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.10 BERKELEY BURKE GROUP HANDICAP CHASE (£4,828: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

501 2123F/3- LAKE TEEREEN 301 (F,G,S) (Mrs A Grantham) J Old 10-12-0 T Grantham 89
502 13F66-5 REPEAT THE DOSE 43 (CD,F,G,S) (A Wates) T Casey 10-11-3 E Murphy
503 F13121/ TARAMOSS 635 (C,S) (H Parker) J Edwards 8-11-3 R Johnson (3) –
504 220-301 MR FELIX 19 (D,F,G,S) (F Rosenstiel's Widow & Son) J Gifford 9-10-13 B Powell 92
505 322P11- BOSTON ROVER 220 (CD,F,G,S) (O Brennan) O Brennan 10-10-9 M Brennan 98
506 1231UP/ DOLIKOS 591 (D,S) (T Caldwell) T Caldwell 8-10-8 Pat Caldwell –
507 2F332/3 TUDOR FABLE 14 (D,G) (J H Collins) N Henderson 7-10-0 M A Fitzgerald 93
508 334322 DR ROCKET 7 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (The Rocketeers) R Dickin 10-10-0 DOUBTFUL 98
509 15F4P-2 PEGMARINE 14 (D,S) (Mrs A Woodrow) Mrs A Woodrow 12-10-0 A Thornton 82

Long handicap: Tudor Fable 9-12, Dr Rocket 9-6, Pegmarine 8-13

BETTING: 3-1 Repeat The Dose, 7-2 Boston Rover, 4-1 Lake Teereen, 5-1 Mr Felix, 6-1 Tudor Fable, 8-1 Taramoss, 12-1 Dolikos, 16-1 Pegmarine

1994: REPEAT THE DOSE 9-12-0 R Dunwoody (11-1) T Casey 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

LAKE TEREEN 7½l 3rd of 4 to Rouyan in handicap chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). REPEAT THE DOSE 25l 5th of 7 to Gilpa Valu in handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good to firm). TARAMOSS beat Suffolk Road 4l in 12-runner novices' handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, soft), March 1994. MR FELIX beat Noblely 5l in 4-runner handicap chase at Warwick (2m, good). BOSTON ROVER, completed double, beat Blustery Fellow 10l in 4-runner handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm). DOLIKOS beat Precipice Run 1l in 6-runner handicap chase at Carlisle (2m, soft), February 1994. PEGMARINE 3½l 2nd of 7 to Dear Do in handicap chase at Windsor (2m, good) with TUDOR FABLE (13lb better off) 1¾l 3rd.
Selection: REPEAT THE DOSE

2.40 BLUE ROSETTE CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,192: 2m 5f) (15 runners)

601 32-2326 THE BLACK MONK 21 (V,D,BF,F,G,S) (Martin Pipe Racing) M Pipe 7-11-10 D Bridgwater 91
602 53144/1 VIARDOT 19 (G,S) (M Reveley Racing Club) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-10 P Niven
603 23-1613 PERSIAN VIEW 19 (G,S) (K Bailey) K Bailey 5-11-7 A Thornton 72
604 /0-2P WILL I FLY 14 (F) (Mrs D Foster) J Long 9-11-4 B Fenton (5) 59
605 221U/P/ DARI SOUND 757 (D,F,G) (Mrs K Leckenby) J Fitzgerald 7-11-1 M Dwyer –
606 0/603-55 SOVEREIGN CHOICE 133 (S) (Miss J Doyle) Miss J Doyle 5-11-1 S Curran –
607 00/ JUNGLE HIGHWAY 946 (P Hiatt) P Hiatt 6-10-13 E Husband (3) –
608 2111-06 FAR OUT 7 (V,D,F,S) (O Brennan) O Brennan 9-10-12 M Brennan 87
609 60/R5 TIPPING ALONG 7 (D Gandolfo) D Gandolfo 6-10-12 A Dowling (7) 50
610 632/6P4 BETALONGABILL 9 (B) (Miss J Taylor) M Madgwick 6-10-9 Mr J Culloty (7) 51
611 23213-4 ROSGILL 22 (F,S) (Brigadier Racing) J White 9-10-9 M A Fitzgerald 98
612 0 ACTION AT LAST 9 (A Lawrence) J Upson 4-10-8 R Supple –
613 3-4 FIFTH FUSILIER 40 (B) (Chasers) Miss A Embiricos 8-10-6 J Ryan –
614 252044 ALWAYS ALEX 23 (F,G) (Mrs C Allen) J Allen 8-10-4 Gary Lyons 72
615 04/3600 SMART DEBUTANTE 14 (F) (J Ponton) Miss S Wilton 6-10-1 T Eley 68

BETTING: 7-4 Viardot, 3-1 The Black Monk, 6-1 Rosgill, 7-1 Persian View, 8-1 Far Out, 12-1 Will I Fly, Dari Sound, 14-1 Smart Debutante, Always Alex, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

THE BLACK MONK 7l 2nd of 6 to Braes of Mar in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good) penultimate start. VIARDOT beat Nordic Valley short-head in 6-runner claiming hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, good) with PERSIAN VIEW (3lb worse off) 20l 3rd. PERSIAN VIEW beat Abaerd 20l in 8-runner novices' claiming hurdle at Newton Abbot (3m 3f, good to soft) penultimate start. WILL I FLY 10l 2nd of 10 to Flight Lieutenant in maiden hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good to soft) penultimate start. SOVEREIGN CHOICE about 11½l 5th of 20 to Great Adventure in maiden hurdle at Gowran Park (2m, good to yielding) penultimate start. DARI SOUND beat Hudson Bay Trader 1½l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 5f 110yd, good), March 1993. FAR OUT, completed treble, beat Scarlet Express 20l in 17-runner selling handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm), May 1995.
Selection: THE BLACK MONK

3.10 CHRIS THORNTON SILVER FOX HANDICAP CHASE (£5,023: 3m 1f) (9 runners)

1 U13U56- DONT TELL THE WIFE 231 (G,S) (Elite Racing Club) C Egerton 9-11-12 J Osborne 97
2 355F0-4 DO BE BRIEF 12 (B,CD,G,S) (E Brown) Mrs J Pitman 10-11-9 W Marston
3 41/111F- SUNY BAY 309 (CD,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 6-11-9 G Bradley 97
4 3F511-0 FAST THOUGHTS 22 (CD,F,G,S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 8-11-6 M Dwyer 97
5 1/2411P- CORNER BOY 308 (F,G,S) (Mrs E Wilson) D Nicholson 8-11-3 R Johnson (3) 90
6 P610-64 HILLWALK 28 (C,F,G,S) (M Stone) R Curtis 9-11-2 M A Fitzgerald 94
7 1/50-55D KILLESHIN 6 (G,S) (H Manners) H Manners 9-10-8 Mr A Charles-Jones –
8 1P6FP-P SIMON JOSEPH 13 (S) (Mrs G McFerran) T George 8-10-0 T Jenks 87
9 PRUF-3P BUCKSHOT 12 (D,G,S) (B Wootton) J Gifford 7-10-0 P Hide 89

Long handicap: Simon Joseph 9-9, Buckshot 9-7.

BETTING: 5-2 Suny Bay, 3-1 Dont Tell The Wife, 7-2 Corner Boy, 6-1 Do Be Brief, 8-1 Fast Thoughts, 10-1 Hillwalk, 16-1 others.

1994: TORT 10-10-9 W Marston (13-8 fav) P Dalton 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

DONT TELL THE WIFE 13l 6th of 9 to Rough Quest in grade II Castlemartin Stud Pat Taaffe Handicap Chase at Punchestown (3m 1f, good). DO BE BRIEF 47l 4th of 13 to Maamur in handicap chase here (good to soft). BUCKSHOT tailed off when pulled up before last.
SUNY BAY, completed treble, beat Smith's Band 3¼l in 10-runner novice chase at Warwick (3m 2f, soft), January 1995. FAST THOUGHTS completed double, beat Veleda II head in 4-runner handicap chase over course and distance (good to soft) penultimate start, March 1995. CORNER BOY, completed double, beat Primitive Singer 25l in 12-runner novice chase at Nottingham (3m 110yd, soft) penultimate start, January 1995. HILLWALK 24¼l 4th of 7 to Too Good To Be True in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good).
Selection: SUNY BAY

3.40 BCA STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,445: 2m) (18 runners)

1 1 FOREST IVORY 17 (S) (Old Foresters Partnership) D Nicholson 4-11-11 R Massey (5) –
2 ARTURO (Lady Lewinton) T Forster 4-11-4 A Thornton –
3 BOSS'S BANK (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 5-11-4 W Marston –
4 4-0 FALCON'S IMAGE 53 (BF) (T Pryke) K Morgan 4-11-4 A S Smith –
5 4 GYSART 22 (Mrs R Cobbold) M Pipe 6-11-4 D Bridgwater –
6 LINDA'S PRINCE (J Witherow) O Brennan 6-11-4 S O'Donnell –
7 MUSICAL HIT (Mrs E Wharton) P Pritchard 4-11-4 R Davis –
8 0 PEE TEE CEE 40 (P Trant) R O'Sullivan 4-11-4 D O'Sullivan –
9 PHAR FROM FUNNY (Mrs E Haycock) G Balding 4-11-4 B Clifford –
10 RIVER CHALLENGE (Middleham Park Racing III) J Upson 4-11-4 R Supple –
11 ROYAL HAND (H George) M Madgwick 5-11-4 Mr J Culloty (7) –
12 SOUTHERNCROSSPATCH (Mrs P Morgan) J White 4-11-4 A Bates (5) –
13 5 TOMPETOO 19 (BF) (Tom Pettifer Ltd) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-4 M Keighley (7) –
14 4/ TREMBLE 583 (Mrs E Roberts) N Henderson 6-11-4 M A Fitzgerald –
15 0-0 BUCKMIST BLUE 33 (J Cleeve) K Morgan 5-10-13 M Dwyer –
16 5 CARMEL'S JOY 22 (T George) T George 6-10-13 T Jenks –
17 6 ILEWIN JANINE 140 (T Segrue) M Ahern 4-10-13 G Bradley –
18 VITAL DECISION (D Cliff) N Lampard 6-10-13 Mr L Baker (7) –

BETTING: 6-4 Forest Ivory, 4-1 Boss's Bank, 5-1 Gysart, 7-1 Falcon's Image, 8-1 Arturo, 10-1 Tompetoo, 12-1 Tremble, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

FOREST IVORY beat Kaladross 15l in 21-runner National Hunt Flat race at Worcester (2m, soft). FALCON'S IMAGE 7¾l 7th of 13 to Beggars Banquet in National Hunt Flat race at Wetherby (2m, good to firm). GYSART 19l 4th of 12 to Dictum in National Hunt Flat race at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft) with CARMEL'S JOY 1¼l 5th. TOMPETOO 12l 5th of 9 to Buster Bob in National Hunt Flat race at Warwick (2m, good). TREMBLE 9l 4th of 15 to Distant Echo in National Hunt Flat race at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: FOREST IVORY

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

1.00 General Crack. 1.30 Chadwick's Ginger. 2.00 Jubilee Royale. 2.30 Group Hat. 3.00 Easby Joker. 3.30 Mr Moriarty.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SOUTHWELL NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,427: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 -106 GENERAL CRACK 17 (D,G,S) P Nicholls 6-11-10 A P McCoy
2 2321 WALKING TALL 31 (D,F) T McGovern 4-11-10 P McLoughlin 88
3 00-4 BASSENHALLY 36 Mrs P Sly 5-11-0 R Marley 85
4 000 DESERT BRAVE 20 Mrs S Smith 5-11-0 R Guest 78
5 3-34 FOXTROT ROMEO 22 C Brooks 5-11-0 D Gallagher 97
6 00-2 MANVULANE 28 Mrs C Black 5-11-0 D McCain 81
7 80/2 OLDHILL WOOD 22 S Mellor 5-11-0 N Mann 86
8 0-PP HERBIDACIOUS 26 M Roberts 5-10-9 D Parker (3) –
9 6440 PASJA 8 S Gollings 4-10-9 D Bentley 55

9-4 Walking Tall, 11-4 Foxtrot Romeo, 9-2 General Crack, 5-1 others

1.30 WELLAND NOVICES CHASE (£3,080: 2m) (7)

1 P0- COOLINNY 293 D McCain 6-11-0 D McCain –
2 PB3- EARLY DRINKER 392 (G) O Sherwood 7-11-0 J A McCarthy –
3 -643 FIERCE 7 (F,S) J Jenkins 7-11-0 J Railton –
4 P/FP GREYBURY STAR 28 K Bailey 7-11-0 T J Murphy (3) –
5 0F LONE VENTURE 24 Mrs S Smith 8-11-0 L Donnelly (7) –
6 6523 MUST BE MAGICAL 10 (B,F,G) P Bradley 7-11-0 B Harding (3)
7 -132 CHADWICK'S GINGER 30 (F,G) W Timing 7-10-9 D Parker (3) –

5-2 Must Be Magical, 11-4 Early Drinker, 3-1 Chadwick's Ginger, 5-1 Fierce, 12-1 Lone Venture, 16-1 Greybury Star, 20-1 Coolinny

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: W Timing, 3 winners from 6 runners, 50.0%; T Forster, 5 from 12, 41.7%; P Nicholls, 3 from 10, 30.0%; K Bailey, 12 from 52, 23.1%; O Sherwood, 5 from 23, 21.7%; J Harris, 22 from 138, 15.9%.

JOCKEYS: G Lee, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; Mr C Bonner, 3 from 12, 25.0%; R Farrant, 8 from 33, 24.2%; A P McCoy, 3 from 15, 20.0%; P McLoughlin, 3 from 15, 20.0%; D Bentley, 8 from 42, 19.0%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 12.20 Jackatack, 3.20 Dancing Sioux, Dissentor. Southwell: 1.30 Must Be Magical, 2.30 La Fontainbleau, 3.30 Dublin Indemnity. Towcester: 12.40 Bay Bob, See You Always.

2.00 CHRISTOPHER DARIUS-CARTER ESQ GOLDEN VENTURES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,490: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

1 3-31 VICEROY RULER 7 (D,G) J Jenkins 4-12-1 (7ex) D Walsh 90
2 2/35 BLAZON OF TROY 26 (C,F,G) T Thomson Jones 6-11-10 G Tormey 86
3 03-5 BELAFONTE 22 (D,F,G,S) J Wharton 8-11-10 D Bohan (5) –
4 00-0 JIHAAD 5 J Norton 5-11-6 E Callaghan (3) 89
5 00-4 ALASKAN HEIR 82 (D,G,S) A Streeter 4-10-12 P Carty (3) 90
6 000- EASTERN PLEASURE 199 (V,D,S) K Burke 8-10-11 A Lamach
7 4402 JUBILEE ROYALE 35 (F) K Bridgwater 4-10-5 D Leahy 95
8 2P05 QUEENS CONTRACTOR 24 S Mellor 5-10-0 Chris Webb 86
9 R004 PERENS HALL 58 M Roberts 8-10-0 D Parker 96

7-4 Viceroy Ruler, 4-1 Blazon Of Troy, 9-2 Belafonte, 6-1 others

2.30 POACHERS INN NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,132: 3m 110yd) (10)

1 05-P LYME GOLD 16 (BF) O Sherwood 6-11-10 J A McCarthy –
2 4260 SENSITIVE KING 14 (B,F,G) J Jenkins 7-11-10 J Railton 89
3 25-2 SIZZLING AFFAIR 9 M Wilkinson 6-11-2 P Crowley (7) 96
4 0P2- THIBAAN 366 J White 7-11-1 D Bentley –
5 F3F1 PERUVIAN GALE 24 (F) Mrs S Smith 6-10-13 R Guest 93
6 40-U GROUP HAT 15 T Forster 7-10-13 S Wynne –
7 F312 JASON'S BOY 10 (BF,F,G,S) J Bradley 5-10-9 A P McCoy
8 326P LA FONTAINBLEAU 7 (V,F) D Brown 7-10-5 R Farrant 93
9 00-F DESPERATE DAYS 24 F Kirby 6-10-0 D Pears –
10 -64P LISALEEN WREN 9 (V) J Norton 6-10-0 W Fry –

7-2 Sizzling Affair, 4-1 Jason's Boy, 9-2 Peruvian Gale, 6-1 others

3.00 QUALVIS PACKAGING HANDICAP CHASE (£3,280: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 -F13 LARRY'S LORD 21 (D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 6-11-13 A P McCoy 95
2 4-11 EASBY JOKER 19 (CD,G) S Kettlewell 7-11-11 Mr C Bonner (3)
3 35-U YOUR WELL 43 (D,G,S) S Earle 9-11-11 C Maude 90
4 2222 CRAFTY CHAPLAIN 15 (CD,F,S) D McCain 9-11-3 D McCain 98
5 0-40 SUPPOSIN 19 (D,G,S) Mrs S Smith 7-10-4 R Guest –
6 46P- BAVARD BAY 289 (B,S) G Barnett 11-10-0 R Farrant –

11-8 Easby Joker, 2-1 Larry's Lord, 3-1 Crafty Chaplain, 12-1 others

3.30 BROWNE JACOBSON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,881: 2m) (5)

1 610- SIMPLY 215 (F,S) T McGovern 6-11-10 A P McCoy 91
2 3210 NEVER SO BLUE 12 (F) (D) P Bradley 4-11-5 B Harding (3) 90
3 50-0 TRISTAN'S COMET 181 (CD,G,S) J L Harris 8-10-10 P McLoughlin 96
4 4-11 MR MORIARTY 6 (D,F) S Bowring 4-10-4 G Lee (3)
5 06/P- DUBLIN INDEMNITY 13F (B,G) M Bielby 6-10-0 F Leahy (3) –

7-4 Simply, 5-2 Never So Bloo, Mr Moriarty, 8-1 others

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

12.20 Sharp Imp. 12.50 Wildfire. 1.20 Hever Golf Star. 1.50 Supreme Power. 2.20 La Perruche. 2.50 Toujours Riviera. 3.20 By The Bay.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 12.50 Broughton's Formula. 2.20 Creeking. 2.50 SOUTH EASTERN FRED (nap).

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.20 BROMLEY HANDICAP (Div I: £2,477: 7f) (16 runners)

1 2500 JACKATACK 8 (V,C,G) M Channon 3-9-13 J Dennis (7) 14
2 2036 HAWAII STORM 8 (C,D,G,S) D French Davis 7-9-13 J Williams 3
3 4646 OUR SHADEE 14 (V,CD,BF,F,G) K Ivory 5-9-11 C Scally (7) 4
4 0300 MAID WELCOME 23 (V,CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-9-9 Amanda Sanders (7) 1
5 0000 CASHCHARGE BLUE 14 (C,F,S) T Naughton 3-9-8 T Ashley (7) 8
6 2522 SHARP IMP 8 (B,D,BF,F) R Flower 5-9-4 D Biggs 2
7 0020 KELLAIRE GIRL 8 A Moore 3-9-3 S Sanders 7
8 0020 AGDER 12 C Brittain 3-9-1 M Baird (5) 9
9 4002 FIERY FOOTSTEPS 12 S Campion 3-8-11 S D Williams 13
10 0003 CHARLIE-DON'T SURF 17 R Guest 3-8-11 J Tate 5
11 2005 THE MESTRAL 2 (B) M Ryan 3-8-9 G Bardwell 12
12 3340 RACING TELEGRAPH 47 (G) J Payne 5-8-7 M Tebbutt 15
13 0004 NIVASHA 15 R Hoad 3-8-6 W Newnes 10
14 0-00 SIR OLIVER 19 (G) B Pearce 6-8-6 M Wigham 16
15 0000 ASTROJOY 17 (B) S Knight 3-8-1 A McGlone 6
16 -000 HENRY WESTON 14 P Howling 3-7-12 J Quinn 11

5-1 Sharp Imp, 7-1 Hawaii Storm, Charlie-Don't Surf, 8-1 Jackatack, Our Shadee, Nivasha, 10-1 Agder, 14-1 others

12.50 MENDIP APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£2,323: 1m 5f) (14)

1 3311 SWEET ROMEO 18 (D,F,G,S) A Vanderhaeghen (Bel) 5-10-0 C Scally 8
2 003- QUIET AMUSEMENT 7J T Clement 4-9-7 G Faulkner 5
3 0406 TALENTED TING 36 (V,F,G) P Haslam 6-9-4 Carol Davison (5) 11
4 0041 WILDFIRE 13 (G,S) R Akehurst 4-9-1 T Ashley (3) 9
5 0532 JUST-MANA-MOU 15 J Bridger 3-8-12 A Lakeman (5) 14
6 6004 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 19 (B,CD,F,G) W Musson 5-8-11 J Wilkinson 3
7 0000 TELEPHUS 2 (C,F,G) B McMath 6-8-3 D Sweeney (3) 8
8 3300 FATTASH 16J R Hoad 3-8-2 Aimee Cook 2
9 1095 GLOW FORUM 15 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 4-7-11 T Field (7) 7
10 0003 TAP ON TOOTSIE 17 I Campbell 3-7-9 R Mullen (5) 1
11 0300 BRESIL 20 (D,F) K Burke 6-7-7 Iona Wands 4
12 -405 KENYATTA 19 (CD,G) A Moore 6-7-7 A Eddery 12
13 0003 ANN HILL 13 (C,F,G) R Hollinshead 5-7-7 P Lynch 10
14 004 CHAPEL ANNIE 13 C Wildman 3-7-7 Jo Hunnam (3) 13

11-4 Wildfire, 5-1 Sweet Romeo, Broughtons Formula, 6-1 Just-Mana-Mou, 8-1 Glow Forum, 10-1 Tap On Tootsie, 12-1 Talented Ting, 16-1 others

1.20 COMMERCIAL CEILING FACTORS HANDICAP (£3,589: 5f) (10)

1 0105 INHERENT MAGIC 33 (CD,G,S) W Muir 6-10-0 J Tate 3
2 5503 CHEWIT 19 (C,G) A Moore 3-9-12 A Clark 10
3 0630 HANNAH'S USHER 84 (D,F,G) C Murray 3-9-10 M Tebbutt 9
4 6056 ZIGGY'S DANCER 54 (D,F,G) E Alston 4-9-10 S D Williams 1
5 1600 ULTRA BEET 28 (CD,F,G) P Haslam 3-9-10 V Halliday 2
6 3012 MYASHA 25 (B,CD,F,G,S) A Vanderhaeghen (Bel) 6-9-5 M Servranckx 4
7 4004 LORD SKY 28 (D,F,G,S) A Bailey 4-9-5 S Whitworth 6
8 5242 HEVER GOLF STAR 28 (D,F) T Naughton 3-9-3 S Sanders 7
9 6630 SHADOW JURY 20 (B,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 5-9-2 J Quinn 5
10 2023 KALAR 8 (B,CD,F,G) D Chapman 6-8-13 A Culhane 8

7-2 Hever Golf Star, 4-1 Inherent Magic, 5-1 Ziggy's Dancer, Lord Sky, 6-1 Chewit, 7-1 Kalar, 8-1 others

1.50 KENSINGTON CLAIMING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,814: 7f) (12)

1 1620 PLEIN GAZ 13 (S) A Hermans (Bel) 9-0 J Quinn 3
2 4301 ULTRA BARLEY 61 (F,G) P Haslam 8-13 M Baird (5) 7
3 0056 SUPREME POWER 30 (B,F) W Muir 8-11 S D Williams 4
4 2226 RED ACUISLE 14 G Lewis 8-8 S Whitworth 12
5 00 YOUNG FREDERICK 24 K Burke 8-8 J F Egan 9
6 300 PETERREX 110 M Channon 8-6 A Eddery (7) 1
7 0605 RIGHTEOUS GENT 20 (BF) K McAuliffe 8-6 S Sanders 5
8 0 GENERAL HENRY 36 A Moore 8-4 A Clark 2
9 0606 JEMSILVERTHORN 8 J Bridger 8-2 G Bardwell 11
10 3100 MULTI FRANCHISE 91 (D,G) B Gubby 8-1 J Tate 10
11 0062 ROWLANDSONS CHARM 8 (V) G L Moore 8-0 N Adams 8
12 5002 TAKAPUNA 13 (F) T Naughton 8-0 D Wright (3) 6

7-2 Plein Gaz, 4-1 Rowlandsons Charm, 5-1 Ultra Barley, Red Acuisle, 7-1 Takapuna, 10-1 Supreme Power, 12-1 Jemsilverthorn, 14-1 others

2.20 WESTMINSTER MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,436: 6f) (9)

1 04 BE SATISFIED 23 A Moore 9-0 A Lakeman (7) 3
2 003 CARMARTHEN BAY 49 G L Moore 9-0 J Williams 2
3 0 DARBY FLYER 89 W Muir 9-0 S D Williams 7
4 0 IRISH KINSMAN 41 P Walwyn 9-0 A McGlone 9
5 COMMON DIVINE C Murray 8-9 M Tebbutt 6
6 CREEKING M Prescott 8-9 C Nutter 8
7 0 LA PERRUCHE 14 Lord Huntingdon 8-9 S Sanders 1
8 40 LAVENDER BLOOM 37 M Cunningham (Ire) 8-9 J Quinn 5
9 MUTEE M Johnston 8-9 T Williams 4

3-1 Carmarthen Bay, 7-2 Mutee, 4-1 Be Satisfied, 9-2 Lavender Bloom, 5-1 La Perruche, 8-1 Creeking, 14-1 Irish Kinsman, 16-1 others

2.50 BEXLEY HANDICAP (£3,657: 1m) (9)

1 6400 TOUJOURS RIVIERA 62 (D,F,G) J Pearce 5-10-0 G Bardwell 1
2 6002 SOUTH EASTERN FRED 36 (C,D,F,G) H Collingridge 4-10-0 J Quinn 2
3 2241 DANCING LAWYER 19 (CD,F,G) B Meehan 4-9-11 J F Egan 9
4 0005 RISKY ROMEO 15 (CD,F,G) G Bravery 3-9-8 M Tebbutt 7
5 4000 BERNARD SEVEN 28 (B,C,D,F) C Brittain 3-8-8 P McCabe (3) 4
6 4000 GULF SHAADI 51 (CD,G) E Alston 3-9-8 S Whitworth 6
7 -011 HARPOON LOUIE 47 (D,F,G) A Vanderhaeghen (Bel) 5-9-7 M Servranckx 5
8 6110 DUKE VALENTINO 23 (CD,BF,G) R Hollinshead 3-8-13 M Wigham 8
9 4411 EASY CHOICE 15 (CD,G) P Mitchell 3-8-9 A Clark 3

2-1 Easy Choice, 7-2 Toujours Riviera, 5-1 Dancing Lawyer, 6-1 South Eastern Fred, Harpoon Louie, 8-1 Duke Valentino, 10-1 Risky Romeo, 12-1 others

3.20 BROMLEY HANDICAP (Div II: £2,464: 7f) (15)

1 5366 DANCING SIOUX 23 (B) R Guest 3-9-11 S Whitworth 3
2 0606 SING UP 15 M McCormack 3-9-8 R Perham 7
3 0050 SALLY WELD 15 (C,D,F) C Benstead 3-9-3 M Wigham 5
4 0046 BY THE BAY 15 (BF) C Elsey 3-9-3 J D Smith (5) 13
5 5040 ASSIGNMENT 14 (C,D,F,G) J Long 9-9-2 D Wright (3) 2
6 2000 SHAYNES DOMAIN 52 (B,D,G) R Flower 4-9-0 D Biggs 3
7 0005 DISSENTOR 20 (V) J Glover 3-9-0 S D Williams 11
8 6550 TOMAL 50 (F) R Ingram 3-9-0 S Sanders 12
9 0052 SCISSOR RIDGE 15 (D,G) J Bridger 3-8-13 J Quinn 9
10 4001 MYJINKA 14 (B,C,G) J O'Donoghue 5-9-12 P McCabe (3) 1
11 4055 WOOLVERSTONE HALL 36 D Murray Smith 3-8-11 W Newnes 14
12 0606 PACIFIC GIRL 15 B Palling 3-8-7 A Clark 4
13 000- PALACEGATE GOLD 372 (C,F,G,S) R Hodges 6-8-6 A McGlone 6
14 0-05 SERIOUS FACT 14 M Prescott 3-8-3 C Nutter 15
15 6000 IT'S SO EASY 131 (D,G,S) A James 4-8-0 N Adams 10

3-1 Scissor Ridge, 7-1 Sally Weld, 9-1 Pacific Girl, Dissentor, 10-1 Assignment, Myjinka, Tomal, 12-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Lewis, 17 winners from 71 runners, 23.9%; M Prescott, 23 from 99, 23.2%; Lord Huntingdon, 34 from 158, 21.5%; G Bravery, 5 from 25, 20.0%; K McAuliffe, 7 from 38, 18.4%; D Murray-Smith, 13 from 72, 18.1%.

JOCKEYS: T Ashley, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; J Wilkinson, 3 from 13, 23.1%; Amanda Sanders, 5 from 35, 14.3%; S Whitworth, 17 from 128, 13.3%; P McCabe, 11 from 82, 13.4%; J Williams, 43 from 355, 12.1%.

Lack of encouragement for bowlers evokes memories of timeless Test

England pitched into thankless task

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN DURBAN

HAVING been delivered, in Johannesburg, by their captain's prodigious powers of concentration and Jack Russell's animal cunning, England still have to find conditions in which even they can bowl South Africa out twice. It is not going to be at all easily done.

If there is hope that it may happen in the third Test match, which starts here in Durban today, that is because, yesterday, there was just a tinge of green in the pitch. But it will very soon be gone and it is not as though England have spinners of the calibre of Fred Titmus and David Allen, who won them the last Test match they played at Kingsmead, 30 years ago.

Generally speaking, pitches have got less interesting since then and it is almost certainly fanciful to think that there will be much pace in today's. Only last year, I watched as Australia spent 205 overs bowling South Africa out on it (Warne 55-20-92-4). Tedious stuff it was, with South Africa, under Kepler Wessels, content simply to hang on to what they already had — a half share in the series.

To some extent, of course, it is incumbent upon old players to say that pitches are not what they used to be. I well remember Alan Melville saying that there was a time when this one at Kingsmead shone like marble and that he could have seen to shave in it. George Headley and Victor Richardson chose much the same words at Kingston and Adelaide respectively. But that was a long time ago. Fewer hands are turned to the "polishing" of Test pitches these days, and that is probably just as well.

It was one of Durban's most cosseted specimens that put an end, once and for all, to timeless Test matches. The match in question, the fifth and last between England and South Africa in March 1939, was timeless because the series was still open. In the event, it was abandoned as a draw after ten run-drenched days to allow the England team to get to Cape Town in time to catch their ship home.

England's captain at the time was the majestic Walter Hammond, who was to come back to settle in Durban in 1951, married by then to Sybil, whom he had met on the 1938-39 tour. As a correspondent with the MCC side to South Africa in 1956-57 and again in 1964-65, one therefore had the chance to see something of him. On the first of these tours, that was pretty well the extent of it: he was as distant a figure then as he had been in his playing days.

Eight years later, he was a changed man: affable, helpful and communicative. There were said to be medical reasons for this metamorphosis, resulting from head injuries suffered in a serious motor accident in 1960. Afterwards, he talked freely of the timeless Test and of how England made less effort than they might have done to score the 696 they needed to win it before it was time to be off to Cape Town. When play was abandoned, England were 654 for four.

It was their way, Hammond said, of debunking such matches. By 1964, he was Sports Administrator at Natal University and even playing, and seeming to enjoy, the occasional game of cricket. In what turned out to be the last of them, he batted briefly with Denis Compton, who was in South Africa on behalf of *The Sunday Express*. Within a few months, Hammond had died of a heart attack, aged 62.

It was in that timeless Test match that Bill Edrich's Test career was given life. When he went in during England's second innings, his Test scores had been 5, 0, 10, 12, 28, 12, 4, 10, 0, 6 and 1 — 88 runs at an average of eight, sometimes going in first, sometimes third and sometimes sixth. But Hammond stood by him. He liked the cut of his jib and talked his fellow selectors (there was no "Godfather" in the England set-up in those days) into giving him another chance in Durban. With the courage that he was to show soon afterwards, as a bomber pilot in the Second World War, Edrich made 219 and went on to finish with a Test average of exactly 40.

Edrich was not as good a batsman as Mark Ramprakash. Well, let me put that another way. He was not as naturally talented a batsman — nothing like. What made him the Test stalwart he became was his temperament. The shot to which Ramprakash got out in the second innings at Johannesburg last week was manifestly tense. He seemed quite prostrated with nerves.

Having said that, I believe Ramprakash will yet make more runs for England than Edrich's 2,440. At 26, he has plenty of time ahead of him and he should have been at No 5 or 6 in the first two Tests of this series, not at first wicket down. He is much too good to despair of. Happily, John Crawley is very good, too, and even younger. It will be disappointing, and surprising, if the *Wisden* of 2010 does not record a string of notable partnerships for England between those, by then, two old troupers, Crawley and Ramprakash.

Debbie Stock and Clare Taylor, the last pair, defied India for more than three hours to force a draw for the England women's cricket team — and clinch the series — in the final Test match in Hyderabad yesterday. England, who drew the first Test and won the second by two runs, went into the final day chasing an unlikely target of 302. They finished on 182 for nine. Jan Brittin, the opener, was the top scorer with 68.



The England hierarchy of Alec Stewart, Michael Atherton and Raymond Illingworth discuss team selection yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

Headley stays calm during tough initiation

Pat Gibson on the bowling discovery who enlivened a difficult tour for England A

THE sun was shining from a cloudless sky, the series of five-day international matches had been won and the England A players were in good spirits as they set off for a relaxing round of golf. Half an hour later, most were back at the hotel. There were only two sets of clubs available.

It was a classic example of the kind of frustration they have had to learn to live with on their tour of Pakistan. As a character-building exercise, it has been hugely successful. Whether it has done as much for their development as cricketers is more debatable.

Unfortunately, it has sometimes been just as exasperating trying to get a net, let alone a decent game of cricket, because of damp pitches, bad light and an acute shortage of practice facilities, all of which have made it difficult to pursue the twin objectives of winning matches and giving all the players the opportunity to show that they have it in them to play Test cricket.

This is partly the fault of the itinerary. The Test and County Cricket Board should have taken a tip from Alexander the Great, a conspicuously successful touring captain in these parts. He made the trip from north to south. England A have done it in the opposite direction, in the middle of the Pakistan winter, and they have been plagued by inclement weather and shortening days for the past fortnight.

In the circumstances, they have done the best they could. Nasser Hussain, the captain, has achieved his aim of winning the series and John Emburey, the cricket manager, believes he has learnt enough about the players to be able to mark Raymond Illingworth's card.

Hussain, technically a better player now than when he was winning his seven England caps, was the most consistent batsman and must be in line for a recall, although he betrayed his old edginess by running himself out in the final international and precipitating the crisis that almost cost him his series victory.

The other two batsmen with Test experience, Gallian and Knight, also looked the part. Both made centuries in international matches and, if Gallian seems the more solid of the two with his tighter method and cool temperament, there is no questioning Knight's desire.

The most significant discovery came on the bowling front. Headley was called into the squad only because Martin was required for the senior tour. With eight wickets in his first four-day match, it was impossible to leave him out and he finished with 25 first-class wickets at 15 runs each.

"He has been phenomenal," Hussain said, "and I don't see any reason why he should not go on to play Test cricket. He is a real trier who just keeps running in and bowling with machine-like rhythm."

The other fast bowler, Giddins, had his moments too, but he seems to lack the discipline needed to make it to the highest level. He could learn from Munton, who did precisely what was expected of him. Salisbury and Stemp also bowled well at times, but there were few opportunities for Udal, who has to wait until the three-match one-day international series starts here tomorrow to remind the selectors of his presence. His prospects improved yesterday when Salisbury was granted an early release from the tour because of the sudden death of his grandmother.

Finally, there is Emburey, who could hardly have made a better impression in his first management job. "He has been brilliant," Hussain said. "The players respect and listen to what he has to say."



Headley: revelation

Gillingham poised to steal Sheffield show

BY CRAIG LORD

NEIL WILLEY and Ian Wilson, silver medal-winners at the short-course world championships, must prove their worth afresh at the national winter swimming championships in Sheffield.

While Nick Gillingham, 29 next month, threatens to steal the show by marking his return to serious competition with a world-record attempt at 200 metres breaststroke, Willey and Wilson, despite their inspired performances in Brazil two weeks ago in, respectively, the 100 metres backstroke and the 1,500 metres freestyle, will start as challengers. The challenged are those national champions who opted to forfeit competing in Rio de Janeiro for the prospect of longer-term Olympic gains next summer.

Willey, 19, came within 0.08sec of Martin Harris's national record to finish runner-up in the 100 metres backstroke in Rio. He is determined to end Harris's five-year reign as national sprint backstroke champion.

After Rio, Wilson, 25 next week, now shares a best time of 14min 49sec with Graeme Smith. Britain's No 1 over 1,500 metres freestyle. Their race may be the longest, and possibly closest, of the championships, but it will no longer be the last, the traditional race schedule changed for broadcast purposes.

For the first time, the first day of the four-day racing programme today will produce no champions, all sessions taken over by heats. Finals will be staged early on Friday, with a Friday evening heats session resulting in Saturday morning finals.

Carla Guerts, of Holland, is likely to be a lonely winner in the distance freestyle events. Sarah Hardcastle, who beat her to become world champion at 800 metres freestyle, having stayed in Brazil on honeymoon.

Mark Foster, Britain's top sprint freestyle swimmer, will be making first appearance since the French swimming federation alleged that a test taken from Foster in July had shown traces of cannabis.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Training injury delays title defence by Benn

THE defence by Nigel Benn of his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title against Thulani Malinga, of South Africa, has been switched from January 20 to March 9. The contest, which is now scheduled to take place in either Newcastle or Nottingham, has been delayed to allow Benn time to regain fitness after sustaining a shoulder injury during training for the contest.

It will be the fourth attempt at capturing the championship by Malinga, 36. He had a ten-round battle with Benn in 1992. Benn won the bout on a disputed points decision that Malinga has called the worst given against him.

Shaw secures place

HOCKEY: John Shaw, of Southgate, has filled the last place in the Great Britain selection for the Olympic qualifying tournament in Barcelona next month. The squad leaves this weekend for a training camp in Cairo and matches against Egypt, on December 20 and 21. Further preparation in January will include two matches each against Italy and Malaysia.

Syed leads resistance

TABLE TENNIS: England slumped to a 4-3 defeat against Germany in Hastings, but made the visitors fight all the way for their European men's league super division victory. Matthew Syed, of Berkshire, played superbly to defeat Steffan Fetzner, the Germany No 2, and Richard Prause, the No 5. In the women's match, also against Germany, England lost 4-0.

Auld enemy clash

CURLING: England and Scotland will meet today in the quarter-finals of the European championship at Grindelwald, Switzerland. Scotland qualified by beating Finland 8-2 and finishing in second place in their group behind an unbeaten Norway. Alistair Burns's mainly Glasgow-based England team finished third in their group after beating Sweden 6-5.





informative:

First Direct Base Rate

With effect from 13 December, 1995 First Direct Base Rate has been reduced by 0.25% to 6.50%

Flexiloan

With effect from 14 December 1995, the Flexiloan rate has been reduced by 0.60% to 18.30% p.a. (APR 19.9%)

HomeOwner Reserve

With effect from 14 December 1995, the HomeOwner Reserve rate has been reduced by 0.25% to 12.75% p.a. (APR 13.3%)

VISA

With effect from 2 January 96, our Visa rates are

Interest	Typical APR (purchases)	Typical APR (cash advance)
1.53%/month (previously 1.59%)	19.9%	22.1%

first direct

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Sometimes, when you are declarer in a no-trump contract, the defence lead your strongest suit. To make the best of it, you may have to conceal your strength until later in the hand. This is a good example, played by Liz Brinig in a Swiss Teams' final.

Dealer South — North - South game — IMPs

	♠AQ65 ♥QJ1086 ♦62 ♣J9	
♠J432 ♥3 ♦J1083 ♣AQ54	N W E S	♠1097 ♥K9754 ♦5 ♣K1032
	♠K8 ♥A2 ♦AKQ974 ♣876	

Contract: 3 NT by South — Lead: Jack of Diamonds

As South, Liz Brinig opened 1 NT (15-17). It is not a classical no-trumps opening, but concealing a strong suit can often work well in the play. After North showed his hearts (via a transfer) and spades, South finished as declarer in 3 NT.

The lead suggested that diamonds were not breaking, so it seemed as if the only legitimate way of making the contract was if East started with precisely king doubleton of hearts. Declarer decided that this was too unlikely a layout to play form but saw another chance, so long as diamonds were no worse than 4-1.

When East contributed the five of diamonds on the first trick, she followed smoothly with the seven. Of course, this play was going to look pretty foolish if the diamonds were breaking all along and the defence cashed their club tricks. However, West continued with another diamond and she now had nine tricks.

☐ The 1996 Macallan International bridge pairs championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be played at The White House Hotel, Regent's Park, London on January 24, 25 and 26. Several world champions are among the 16 pairs who will be playing. You can watch at the tables or in the Viewgraph theatre.

Session times and prices are: Wednesday 5.30pm to 11.00, £12.50; Thursday noon to 4.00, £10.00; 5.30 to 1.00, £12.50; full day, £15.00; Friday 12.30pm to 6.00, £15.00. Season ticket for all sessions, £30. These are available from The Macallan Box Office, 31 Queens Road, Mortlake, London, SW14 8PH (tel: 0181-878 5844).

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Kasparov's chance

When Garry Kasparov, the world champion, faced the Fritz/Pentium computer in Munich last year, he suffered an unexpected setback in a game where his usually victorious sacrifices foundered on the computer's solid defence.

Subsequently, the Fritz/Pentium won the world championship for computers in Hong Kong. Therefore, the two-game match between Kasparov and the computer held in London yesterday can legitimately be regarded as the man v machine world chess championship.

Here is the sensational game that Kasparov lost to the Fritz/Pentium in Munich and for which he was seeking revenge.

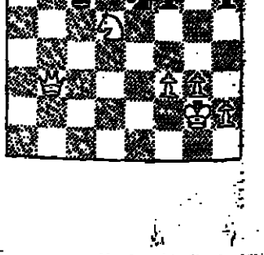
White: Garry Kasparov
Black: Fritz3/Pentium
Munich 1994

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	e3	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	Bxc4	e5
4	d4	exd4
5	exd4	Bb4+
6	Nc3	Nf6
7	Nf3	0-0
8	0-0	Bg4
9	h3	Bh5
10	g4	Bg6
11	Ne5	Nc6
12	Be3	Nxe5
13	dxe5	Nd7
14	f4	Nb6
15	Bb3	Bd3
16	Qf3	Bxf1
17	Rxf1	c6
18	f5	Qe7
19	f6	Qxe5
20	fxg7	Kxg7
21	Ne4	Nd5
22	Bxd5	cxd5
23	Ng3	Kg8
24	Nf5	Rac8
25	Qf2	Rc4
26	Nh6+	Kh8
27	Bxa7	f6
28	Nf5	Re8
29	a3	Be1
30	Qg2	Re4
31	Nh6	Re7
32	Rf5	Re2
33	Rxe5	Rxg2+
34	Kxg2	bxe5
35	Bb8	e4
36	Be5+	Rxe5
37	Nf7+	Kg7
38	Nxe5	Bd2
39	Kf1	Bc1
40	b3	Bxa3
41	g5	d4
42	Ke2	d3+
43	Kd2	Bd6
44	Nc4	Bf4+
45	Kc3	b5

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Junior championships

The world junior championships, in Guarapuava, Brazil, ended in a series of victories for eastern European nations. Kempinski, of Poland, won the boys' under-18 championship with eight points out of 11 and Peptan, of Romania, won the girls' under-18 championship.

The highest placed British player in the boys' section was J. Rowson, from Aberdeen, who came fourth with 7½ points. In the girls' section, Harriet Hunt, from Oxford, also came fourth with 7½ points.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess, Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SERRE
a. The Peruvian uplands
b. A prig
c. Compact

TORA
a. A hartebeest
b. A samurai war-cry
c. A sweet potato

ZIBIB
a. An Egyptian gown
b. Raisin brandy
c. A Scythian crossbow

WEEKSITE
a. An American caravan park
b. A hebdomadal tenancy
c. Soft yellow crystals

Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Zukertort — Englisch, London 1883. In this position, White found an ingenious winning continuation based on an eventual knight fork. Can you do as well?

Solution on page 46

Tyson ready for process of mopping up titles

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT IN PHILADELPHIA

BY THE end of next year, Mike Tyson will be the undisputed heavyweight champion again, lifting the World Boxing Council (WBC), World Boxing Association (WBA) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) titles, Tyson's manager, John Horne, said yesterday. When Frans Botha, of South Africa, lifted the IBF championship last week, the last of the three main titles fell within the promotional control of Don King. Tyson's promoter, and it is time for the former world champion to start mopping up.

Tyson has looked so impressive in the gym that Horne believes nobody in the world will be able to last more than a round with the former champion, not even Riddick Bowe or Lennox Lewis. Frank Bruno will be the first to fall and the rest will follow quickly.

The fractured right thumb that caused the postponement of Tyson's second comeback contest — with Buster Mathis Jr — has healed, as Tyson proved in no uncertain manner this week by knocking out Nate Tubbs, a sparring partner, in Joe Hand's gym on the north side of Philadelphia.

A right-left combination sent Tubbs sprawling. "I got hit with a temple shot. I blinked out," Tubbs said. "I've been with Mike seven years. When Mike can put me down, then he knows he's ready." Another sparring partner was sent to hospital on Tuesday with his teeth protruding through his lip.

There can be little doubt that Tyson's excellent physical condition is due to the regular exercising he did in prison. He thanks his fellow prisoners for keeping him on his toes. "Prison is a horrific place," Tyson said. "My mind was in a real conflict about what I would do when I got out — I was catatonic — but these lifers would bang on my cell and yell: 'Mike, c'mon, get up and do your exercise. You gotta get yourself ready to fight again'.

"These guys were going to spend the rest of their life in jail. That got me to understand that no one was going to deprive me of making $30 million from fighting. That's all I really know how to do. For the first time, I'm having a good time fighting."

Horne said: "There ain't a sparring partner left standing or able to take much more. He's doing this sort of thing daily, no matter what their style or how big they are. He will beat Bruno and the other champions in a round." Which leaves one fearing for Mathis, whom he meets here at the Spectrum on Saturday.

The bout is being called "presumption of innocence", which is a reference to the suspension of King's licence by the Casino Control Board of New Jersey to promote in Atlantic City because King is under indictment for fraud.

"Not being licenced in Atlantic City is unconstitutional," King said. "When it comes to the point when an accused person is stopped from earning a living during the period it takes him to vindicate himself through due process, what we have done is pushed equality, justice and fairness out the door. I am unacceptable because I am an African-American who dared to be great."

As Tyson desperately needed another bout before taking on Bruno in March, King turned to Philadelphia, the home of boxing legends like Joe Frazier. The city has not seen a significant heavyweight bout for 27 years, when Frazier met Oscar Bonavena.

Having had to sell the bout to the Fox television network in a new deal that cut the price from $10 million (about £6.5 million) to $5 million, Tyson, too, has had to take a 50 per cent cut and will receive $5 million. McNeeley was disposed of in 89 seconds, Mathis could go even more quickly, but King keeps on hammering: "The only thing he [Tyson] has to do is keep winning. The world loves a winner, brother."

Gascoigne reaches point of no return

David Miller says that the time has come for Venables to do without his trusted playmaker

IAN STEWART



Gascoigne faces an uphill struggle as he tries to lift himself against the Portuguese at Wembley on Wednesday

Any team that is too reliant on one player is vulnerable. When that player himself is vulnerable, the predicament multiplies. Paul Gascoigne has reached that point at which he is more liability for England than lynchpin.

On the evidence of the 1-1 draw with Portugal at Wembley on Wednesday, Terry Venables, the England coach, needs urgently to consider this reality. Gascoigne's flair has all but vanished. He can no longer lift himself for the occasion, never mind lift the team. Venables should dispense with the man who, 5½ years ago, caught the nation's imagination when England reached the World Cup semi-final in Italy.

It is a tough decision to have to take. All managers tend to have a special allegiance to one player. Walter Winterbottom's was to Johnny Haynes, Alf Ramsey's to Bobby Moore — to a lesser extent Nobby Stiles — Don Revie's to Ray Wilkins, Ron Greenwood's to Kevin Keegan, Bobby Robson's to Bryan Robson. Venables, almost out of necessity, has had an unshakeable faith in Gascoigne. His faith is becoming the team's Achilles' heel.

The problem for England is that Gascoigne is — was — their one world-class player — that is, a player who would be a candidate for selection in, say, most of the world's top ten teams.

That indicates, therefore, the seriousness of England's situation. With Gascoigne's decline, they have no world-class player, given that David Platt has lost his edge and Nick Barmby, potentially an important player, as yet has insufficient experience. We should not rush to condemn an average performance against the dangerous Portuguese, by what is essentially a team of average ability.

It had been, as ever, a determined display by England, especially considering they had been deprived by injury of several significant players. Yet there was no disguising the marginal function of Gascoigne, who was seldom influential on the pattern and rhythm of the play, never mind being a match-winning threat. He had become peripheral.

Not only is he still temperamentally vulnerable — witness his behaviour at club level with Rangers — but he has become suspect in his physical contribution. He looked unfit and worryingly short of pace in the key position at the heart of England's midfield.

There was an instance in the first half when the mercurial Figo — surprisingly substituted by Antonio Oliveira at half-time — left Gascoigne stranded helpless on the ground. The only occasion when Gascoigne threatened Portugal's goal was near the end, a header from Stone's centre that flew wide.

His minimal contribution in the engine room, in the position formerly occupied by the stern Paul Ince, meant that England regularly found themselves outnumbered when Portugal counter-attacked. This served to pull Stone and Wise more into the centre of the field, which meant that, for most of the match, England were lacking width.

In the diamond-shaped midfield formation, one with which Venables wants the team to become familiar, Gascoigne can no longer justify his inclusion, either in Wednesday's position or playing further forward. Venables must hope that Redknapp, Anderton and Barmby can rise above themselves in the coming months.

It was also apparent that Dennis Wise lacks international status. He has com-

> **'He was seldom influential, never mind a match-winning threat'**

mendable sheepdog characteristics, but his passing and vision are inadequate. Every other pass was directed backwards to Stuart Pearce.

Success in the World Cup is ultimately dependent on player ability as much as management. To win the World Cup, you need a minimum of five world-class players. Winter-bottom, in four World Cups, had five or more, from the days of Matthews, Finney, Mortensen and Mannion in 1950, through the era of Wright, Douglas and Haynes up to 1962. In 1958, he had lost Byrne, Edwards and Tommy Taylor.

Ramsey had six: Banks, Wilson, Moore, Bobby Charlton, Peters and Hurst. Revie had Wilkins, Keegan and Brooking and lost the services of McFarland, Bell, Beattie and Todd. Greenwood had the use of Shilton, Robson, Wilkins and Trevor Francis, while Bobby Robson had Shilton, Hoddle, Lineker, Platt, Waddle and Gascoigne. And now?

The team that Venables eventually constructs will be more than usually dependent on his own ability to harness players who are less than stars. He has shown that he has made some progress.

Unexpected move by Leeds sees Cook go to Bradford

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

PAUL COOK, the Leeds and England rugby league utility goal-kicking back, emerged yesterday as a surprise latest piece in the Bradford Bulls jigsaw, in exchange for Carl Hall, the New Zealand centre, plus a cash adjustment, in a deal estimated at £150,000.

Cook, 19, signed a three-year contract and will make his Bradford debut in the Stones Championship at Odsal on Sunday against his former club, as might Hall, 26, for Leeds. The decision by the Headingley club to release its leading points-scorer this season came as no greater shock than to the player himself.

"I thought I was part of Leeds's long-term plans, but it has turned out not to be the case," Cook said. "They told me I could stay, but I would not be playing first-team football, so now I'm just looking forward to playing in Super League next year with Bradford."

After a succession of poor performances, Dean Bell had made it plain that change was necessary, but Cook's potential is such that he had not been reckoned among those players the Leeds coach had in mind to leave, particularly after his outstanding early form earned him a call to England's squad for the World Cup.

Cook, who appeared in the Fiji and South Africa group matches, is one of the most successful products of the Leeds academy side. He scored four tries and 16 goals in eight first-team matches last season and has been a regular presence this season, during which he has scored nine tries and 74 goals.

Cook is Bradford's sixth signing in a month. Sonny Nickle, Bernard Dwyer and Paul Loughlin, the three makeweights in the £500,000 deal which took Paul Newlove to St Helens, are settling in well. Graeme Bradley and Jeremy Donougher arrive next month.

Brian Smith, the Bradford coach, was delighted with Cook's signing. "This is a great capture for us. He is 19, a current international and a very good versatile player, whose career I have been following closely for some time," he said.

Britons face stern test at Olympia

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

BRITAIN'S leading riders face the strongest field yet assembled for a British international horse show when they compete at the Olympia show jumping championships, which start today in the Grand Hall.

For the first time in the 23-year history of the event, the reigning champions in the sport's four leading events are competing: Ludger Beerbaum, of Germany, the Olympic champion; his compatriot, Franke Sloothaak, the world champion; Peter Charles, of Ireland, the European gold medal-winner; and Nick Skelton, of Britain, the holder of the Volvo World Cup.

With the other ten riders in the top 14 of the world jumping rankings also attending, the competition for a share of the £210,000 prize-money will be intense. The two richest classes are the £45,000 Volvo World Cup qualifier on Saturday afternoon and the £50,000 Olympia Grand Prix on Monday evening, the closing night of the show.

Ironically in this bumper year, television coverage has been cut back. Only Eurosport is transmitting live. The BBC, which has televised the show since its inception, is to end its nightly broadcasts.

Michael Whitaker, who is second in the world rankings behind Beerbaum, leads the British challenge. Although his Calgary Grand Prix winner, Everest Two Step, is still recovering from an injury sustained in the field, his second horse, Midnight Madness, is on top form. They won the Berlin qualifier last month and were fifth in the Frankfurt Grand Prix a week ago.



Michael Whitaker: second in the world rankings

Whitaker, his elder brother, John, and Skelton have an added incentive. It is the last time they appear wearing the dark blue Everest colours. The three-year sponsorship ends this year and, with no new sponsor yet signed, the three riders — ranked No 2, No 5 and No 9 in the world — are determined to impress.

Skelton, like Michael, has had one of his best years in the sport. His World Cup win in April on Dollar Girl — which qualifies him for the final in April next year — heralded a run of success. On Showtime, he won the grands prix in Barcelona, Modena and Wembley. On Dollar Girl, his winnings this year total £250,000. Both horses are in action this week.

John Whitaker, who is searching for some younger horses to join his ageing string, intends to secure his qualification for the World Cup final this weekend. He will ride Welham, on which he helped Britain win the silver medal at the European championships in September.

In Berlin last month, Whitaker and Welham had the fastest time in the jump-off for the qualifier but dropped to sixth place when they hit the penultimate fence.

Whitaker is pleased at the line-up this week: "It's healthy competition — and it's good to see all the top riders competing in this country."

Other leading British riders include William Funnell, with Comex, Geoff Billington, with It's Otto, Alison Bradley, with Tinka's Boy, and Di Lampard, who is joint-seventh in the European League for the World Cup, with Abervail Dream. The Germans, with their two champions, and the French, led by Roger-Yves Bost and Michel Robert, pose the biggest threat.

The popularity of Olympia stems from its unique mix of serious show jumping with festive, fun events. This week, alongside the show jumping there are displays from the Barcelona mounted police, Lorenzo the flying Frenchman and Dressage to rock, — courtesy of Mike Rutherford, of the group Genesis — which is part of the Gala Night tonight in aid of the British Equestrian Olympic Fund.

Faldo's major desire is undiminished

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE IN TRYALL, JAMAICA

WHEN Nick Faldo threw in his lot with the United States tour last year, nobody expected him to embrace the native way quite so literally. For Faldo, the American dream has come not in a return to past glories, but in the shapely form of Brenna Cepelak, a 20-year-old student from the University of Arizona, whose first formal appearance at a tournament after the break-up of Faldo's second marriage has sparked added interest in this lucrative end-of-term jamboree.

Besides the new love in his life, Faldo unveiled a new driver, new irons and a new golf ball on the eve of the opening round of the Johnnie Walker world championship, but it sounded like the same old driven man beneath. Despite his worst performance in the majors for many years, Faldo's determination to recover lost ground remains characteristically undimmed.

"If you haven't had the results you want, you just have to learn from it, rebuild and regroup," he said. "I'm looking forward now to next year. I want to start challenging for the majors again. I still feel I've got it in me to do that and I've certainly worked hard enough. I'm still pursuing those goals." No change there, then.

For all the off-course distractions over the past three months, Faldo's instinct is still to look for the solution to problems on the practice ground rather in his head or his private life, still defining the meaning of life in terms of a five-iron. "It's been ridiculous, but, unfortunately, I'm not in control of that. I've just got to continue to live my own life."

A torrid year, personally and professionally, has been punctuated by a single victory in the Doral Open not far from his Florida base in Lake Nona and a spectacular wedge shot to the final green against Curtis Strange on the last day of the Ryder Cup that all but secured victory for the European team. "One of the shots of my life," Faldo said. "Winning the Ryder Cup made it a great year. The nicest feeling was that everyone won a point."

Only John Daly of the four major winners this year has made the trip to Tryall for the $2.3 million (around £1.5 million) world championship, the last to be sponsored by Johnnie Walker, but, with Ernie Els defending his title, Faldo, Colin Montgomerie and Fred Couples in the 20-man field, along with the ubiquitous Sam Torrance, there is no shortage of class. Montgomerie, you sense, views this tournament as the end of a long, hard season; Faldo as the start of another bright, new tomorrow.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 116 Toronto 96; Minnesota 85 Atlanta 78; Cleveland 97 LA Clippers 86; Indiana 125 Denver 92; Orlando 101 New Jersey 97, Washington 108 Milwaukee 102; New York 97 LA Lakers 82; Dallas 112 Seattle 101 (OT); Charlotte 115 Phoenix 100; Golden State 105 Miami 80; Houston 133 Sacramento 93.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (first day of four): Melbourne: Victoria 306-4 (M Elliott 151 not out, G Vimpani 71) v Tasmania.
NAIROBI: One-day international: Holland 154-7 (Asif Karim 3-7), Kenya 155-5 (M Odumbe 46).

CURLING

GRINDELWALD, Switzerland: European championships: Men: Fourth round: Group A1: Norway 7 Holland 4; Germany 3 Scotland 5; Austria 5 Finland 3. Group A2: Sweden 7 Wales 4, England 0 Switzerland 6; Italy 8 Denmark 4. Fifth round: Group B: Belgium 10 Luxembourg 3; France 12 Bulgaria 1; Russia 11 Czech Republic 3. Women: Third round: Group A1: Switzerland 8 Denmark 5; Luxembourg 1 Sweden 12; Austria 11 Czech Republic 1. Group A2: Norway 6 Germany 9, England 3 Scotland 9; Finland 9 France 5. Fourth round: Group A1: Switzerland 11 Czech Republic. Group A2: Finland 12 England 2; Norway 12 France 2; Scotland 10 Germany 6. Fifth round: Group B: Russia 7 Italy 6, Bulgaria 12 Holland 1.

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England 1 Portugal 1
FA CUP: Second round replays: Darlington 0, Rochdale 1; Shrewsbury 2 Scunthorpe 1; Walsall 8 Torquay 4 (aet); Woking 2 Enfield 1. Postponed: Gravesend and Northfleet v Cinderford Town.
REVISED THIRD ROUND DRAW: Crewe v West Bromwich, Reading v Gillingham, Tranmere Rovers v Queens Park Rangers; Norwich City v Brentford; Leicester City v Man City; Cinderford or Gravesend and Northfleet v Aston Villa; Crystal Palace v Port Vale; Stoke v Nottm Forest; Swindon v Woking; Bradford v Bolton; Huddersfield v Blackpool; Plymouth v Coventry; Grimsby v Luton; Southampton v Portsmouth; Birmingham v Wolverhampton; Everton v Stockport; Peterborough v Wrexham; Barnsley v Oldham; West Ham v Southend; Walsall v Wigan; Millwall v Oxford United; Manchester United v Sunderland; Liverpool v Rochdale; Hereford v Tottenham; Arsenal v Sheffield United; Derby v Leeds; Fulham or Brighton v Shrewsbury; Chelsea v Newcastle; Ipswich v Blackburn; Charlton v Sheff Wed; Notts County v Middlesbrough; Watford v Wimbledon.
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Welling 0 Farnborough 1.
TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP: First round: Stenhousemuir 2 Arbroath 2.
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Postponed: Clydebank v Airdrie.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Frickley 1 Matlock 4, Unitilla Cup: Second round: Gretna 1 Whitley Bay 2; Lancaster 1 Farsley Celtic 1, Lincoln 1 Alfreton 4; Radcliffe 0 Great Harwood 1, Warrington 0 Atherton LR 1; Workington 4 Netherfield 2; Worksop 5 Harrogate Town 1.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City 1 Sudbury 0; Rushden and Diamonds 3 Gloucester 2. Midland division: Redditch 2 Bilston 1. De Martens Cup: Second round: Atherstone 1 Nuneaton 3; Baldock 1 Margate 0; Tonbridge Angels 3 Fisher '83 0. Second round replays: Moor Green 2 Bridgnorth 1.
ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Barton 3 Thame 3, Wembley 0 Maidenhead United 1. Third division: Horsham 3 Aveley 1. Carlton Cup: Second round: Grays 1 Billericay 2, Oxford City 1 Basingstoke 0. Guardian Insurance Cup: Third round: Bedford Town 1 Wokingham 2; Heybridge Swifts 3 Dulwich Hamlet 2; Hitchin 4 Bishop's Stortford 1.
LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City 2 Connah's Quay 1; Barry 2 Ton Pentre 0; Flint Town 2 Porthmadog 0; Rhyl 1 Holywell 1. Postponed: Newtown v Conwy.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Walsall Wood 1 Pelsall Villa 3. Postponed: Stourport v Wednesfield. League Cup: Second round: Postponed: Tividale v Wolverhampton Casuals.
SUN LIFE GOLD CUP: Semi-finals: Omagh 0 Crusaders 1.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal 4 Oxford United 1; Portsmouth 0 Bristol City 1; Queens Park Rangers 1 West Ham United 2, Watford 0 Crystal Palace 1. Second division: Plymouth Argyle 0 Cardiff City 0.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby County 3 Wolverhampton Wanderers 2. Second division: Coventry City 4 Manchester City 0; Rotherham United 0 Aston Villa 1. Third division: Doncaster Rovers 0 Carlisle United 2.
FA CARLSBERG VASE: Third round replay: Mangotsfield 5 Hungerford 1.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street 2 Bedlington 3. Postponed: Tow Law v Shildon.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Odd Down v Tiverton.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Haverhill 5 Wisbech 4. Postponed: Newmarket v Diss, Harwich and Parkeston v Stowmarket.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Aerostructures 1 Andover 2; Bournemouth 1 Ryde Sports 1.
MIDDLESEX SENIOR CHARITY CUP: Third round: Badlont 3 Hillingdon 2.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood Hanley 1 Flixton 1.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: League Cup: Second round replay: Borrowash Vic 1 Ossett Town 0. Third round: Belper Town 4 Worsbrough Bridge 1; Goole 0 Arnold 1, Thackley 2 Glasshoughton Welfare 1
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Crowborough 0 Southwick 1, Oakwood 0 Langney Sports 4; Peacehaven and Telscombe 4 Hassocks 0; Ringmer 3 Whitehawk 2, Wick 0 Burgess Hill 0
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham 2 Thamesmead 0; Folkestone Invicta 3 Herne Bay 3; Whitstable 3 Tunbridge Wells 0.
ITALIAN CUP: Quarter-final: Lazio 0 Internazionale 1.
SPANISH CUP: Third round, second leg: Valencia 1 Real Oviedo 0 (Valencia win 2-1 on agg)

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Florida 3 NY Islanders 1; Montreal 6 Winnipeg 5, Detroit 5 St Louis 2, San Jose 2 Ottawa 1

RUGBY UNION

UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England 21 Scotland 18
CIS TOUR MATCH: England A 55 Western Samoans 0.
CIS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North: Lancashire 23 Cheshire 22.
HEINEKEN CUP: Pool A: Toulouse 18 Treviso 9 (Toulouse qualify to meet Swansea in semi-final, December 30).
HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Swansea 26 Llanelli 20
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: RAF 35 Civil Service 16.

SKI JUMPING

PREDAZZO, Italy: World Cup: 1, M Lasinen (Fin) (95m, 94m) 244pts; 2, A-P Nikkola (Fin) (91.5m, 93.5m) 242; 3, A Goldberger (Austria) (88m, 91m) 235.5; 4, J Ahonen (Fin) (90m, 89.5m) 234; 5, L Ottesen (Nor) (90m, 85.5m) 220.5; 6, R Weber (US) (85.5m, 85m) 218.5. Overall standings: 1, Lasinen 396; 2, Ahonen 310, 3, Nikkola 300. Nations Cup: 1, Finland 1,295. 2, Japan 838. 3, Norway, 647

SQUASH

BRADFORD: Yorkshire championships: Finals: Men: N Berrett bt D Campion 9-7, 9-0, 9-6. Women: J Thacker bt C Fleetwood 4-9, 9-3, 9-3, 9-0.

TABLE TENNIS

HASTINGS: European League: Super division: England v Germany: Men's match: (England names first) Chen Xinhua bt R Prause 15-21, 21-15, 21-18; A Cooke lost to J Rosskopf 21-14, 21-14; M Syed bt S Fetzner 21-19, 12-21, 21-17. Cooke and A Eden lost to Rosskopf and Fetzner 21-23, 12-21; Chen loss Rosskopf 21-16, 18-21, 9-21; Syed bt Prause 22-20, 21-12; Cooke lost to Fetzner 12-21, 12-21. Final score: England 3 Germany 4. Women's match: L Lomas lost to N Struse 12-21, 21-13, 21-19; A Broe lost to J Schopp 21-8, 21-8. A Holt lost to O Nemes 21-16, 21-19, Lomas and Holt lost to Struse and E Schall 18-21, 16-21. Final score: England 0 Germany 3.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance 24pts £26,649.85, 23 £248.85, 22 £19.55, 21 £5.60, 20 £1.40. Four draws £1.75, 10 homes £585.60. Five aways £22.55
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Manchester Tonight (3483) 6.00-7.00 Anything: 'Europeans (6395252) | Part 2 (1976) (9788228) 8.05 Manhattan Warriors (35620) 5.00 Wrestling Zone (8153) (3967347) 3.30 Ray Bradbury (7167757) Count Duckula (5143) 9.30 The Littlest Pet Adventures of Tintin (81738-) 12.30am (1984) (4203952)

Wishing to recall Olympic once upon a time

We have had synchronised swimming, and come 2000 we may be in for ballroom dancing, so how about pantomime in the Olympics?

It used to be said, rather cruelly, that you could always tell when a sportsman was a bit hard up — he went into pantomime (anybody seen my career? It's behind you!). But pantomime is not the end-of-career spot for over-the-hill athletes that it once was. These days there's a two-way traffic.

This year Frank Bruno has stepped out of the make-believe, topsy-turvy world of panto, where even the impossible can come true, back into the wholly believable world of boxing, where, magically, the former King of Panto has been crowned heavyweight champion of the world. And Tessa Sanderson, who is at present waving her magic javelin as Cinderella's fairy godmother in Lewisham, has announced she is leaving the pantomime after Christmas to go back into serious training for the Olympic Games in Atlanta next summer.

'Pantomime is not the end of a career it once was'

She will be 40 by the time of the Games in July and her comeback has been inspired by a project to raise £1 million for the Children in Hospital charity. But Sanderson's transformation scene, from tights to tracksuit, has to be taken seriously.

She is already in *The Guinness Book of Records* as the only woman to have made five Olympic Games appearances for Britain. She won gold in Los Angeles in 1984, and if she gets back into the team she will equal the record number of Olympic appearances by any track and field athlete worldwide. Only two British men, Bill Hoskyns (fencing) and Paul Radmilovic (swimming and water polo), have competed at six Olympics. If fairy godmothers are up to anything, Sanderson will make the Games, inspire every woman who has been on the brink of 40 and be in there throwing for a medal.

What brings the sports stars onto the stage is that in pantomime, as in sport, there ain't nothing like a name. Whether it's Sleeping Beauty in Bath or a 5,000 metres at Crystal Palace, the first thing the public asks is: "Who's in it?" You need names to bring in the audiences, and that is why the sportsmen and women line up on stage alongside the television personalities.

This year you can catch the warm West Country burr of Gareth Chilcott, the former Bath and England rugby union player, in the unlikely setting of *Sleeping Beauty* at Bath; you can share snooker jokes with John Virgo in *Dick Whittington* at Hastings; or you can relive magic skating moments of the past with Robin Cousins in *Cinderella* at the Birmingham Hippodrome. Geoff Capes grunts his stuff as the strongest man seen in *Aladdin* at Rhyl; while Kriss Akabusi shows off the energy that won him all those hurdling medals by running rings round *Dick Whittington* in Woking.

The villain (or fairy godmother, depending on your opinion) in all of this is television. The power of the camera to turn an athlete into a crowd-pulling superstar is immense. And the phenomenon goes back a long way. It started with the big screen of the cinema and even predates the talkies.

One of the first to face the cameras was the legendary Billy Meredith, of Manchester City and Wales. The finest right winger of his generation and the man who captained his club to their first FA Cup win, in 1904, scoring the winning goal, he formed a close friendship with Charlie Chaplin and another star of stage, screen and pantomime, George Robey. The three of them used to play together in charity football matches, and Meredith made his silent-movie debut in the appropriately titled *Ball of Fortune*. A few years later, Hollywood woke up to the screen potential of the sports star, snapping up the swimmer, Johnny Weissmuller, to play Tarzan after his five gold medals at the Games of 1924 and 1928.

These days it is the television screen that is more likely to offer an alternative career. Big names can mean big money, and some theatres rely on the profits from their pantomime season to see them through the rest of the year. One of the biggest sporting money-spinners is reckoned to be Ian Botham. His appearance in the production of *Cinderella* at the Wimbledon Theatre last year helped to turn it into London's biggest money-making pantomime.

This year the meeting of sport and pantomime has grown even closer with appearances from a clutch of stars from *Gladiators*, including Wolf, Jet and Lightning, who will be flexing their muscles to the boos and cheers of thousands of boys, girls, mums and dads. Shoe sponsorship deals, with "Puss in Adidas Boots", cannot be far behind. For just how close the arenas of top-level sport and top-class pantomime have come is best illustrated by a description of the world of panto from a production note to *Puss in Boots* by the scriptwriter, John Crocker. He talks of "a splendid topsy-turvy world where men are women, women are men, where the present is embraced within the past, where people are hit but not hurt, above all where magic abounds and dreams come true".

'Her change from tights to tracksuit has to be believed'

Anyone who knows sport will recognise that unusual world. It is a hauntingly familiar description of what you see when you walk, just once every four years, through the modern Olympic village.

JOHN BRYANT

England must make full use of chance to regain confidence

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE combination of their own inadequacy against South Africa last month — as depicted on personalised videos — and an expectant nation should ensure a much improved display by England when they play Western Samoa at Twickenham on Saturday. If it is not forthcoming, Jack Rowell, the manager, will want to know why.

Rowell's squad trained at Roehampton yesterday without Will Carling, the captain, who is suffering from a cold. He is expected to join the private training today that will be followed by a players' meeting, when their proposed contracts with the Rugby Football Union will be discussed.

That, too, is a distraction that Rowell could do without. "It is all part of getting into the new era, but the sooner we can sort it out, the better," he said.

The financial climate is complicated by the lurking prescence of a proposed unofficial European super league, the funding for which is due to clarified by this weekend and which cannot yet be dismissed out of hand.

Players do not wish to deny themselves the possibility of lucrative overseas contracts either, though that possibility was made less likely by the decision of the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) that its provincial teams may field only two overseas players and that any player who had competed overseas would have to serve a six-month stand-down period upon resuming in South Africa.

The new regulation, agreed by the Sarfu executive committee, is designed to stop the 12-month rugby player and comes into force on January 1. The only exceptions, for geographical reasons, are Namibia and Zimbabwe; but the same principle could be said to apply to players seeking to appear in rugby league in the summer and rugby union in the winter.

Newport, of the Heineken League first division, have released Alex Lawrie, the team manager, and Paul Evans, the coach, who were appointed last season.

England's short-term playing objective, however, is to turn the losing tide of three defeats in successive internationals, albeit that they were against New Zealand, France and South Africa. All those involved against South Afica have received videotapes in which their imperfections in that match have been highlighted.

"You have to learn from how you failed," Rowell said. "I imagine that, if players want to do well, they don't want to see themselves in a poor light. We have put together a form of notational analysis, as they do in American football, and we will make that ongoing. England owe the nation a big performance. They owe themselves one too."

At least England feel that a younger generation is knocking on the door: Alex King and Phil Greening made good impressions during the 55-0 win by England A against the Samoans at Gateshead on Tuesday night.

"King is the discovery of the season," Mike Slemen, the national selector, said of the Bristol University stand-off half. "Considering this was his first game at this level, it was very impressive."

The Samoans will field the same XV that drew 15-15 with Scotland a month ago, but include, through force of circumstance, only seven of those who played against England in Durban in the World Cup in June.

WESTERN SAMOA: H Patu; B Lima, T Veega, G Leaupepe, A Telea; D Kellett, J Filemu; M Mika, T Lalesamalvao, P Fatialofa, S Kaleta, L Falanika, P Leavasa, S Vaifale, P Lam (captain).



IAN STEWART

Matt Dawson, the new England scrum half, training at Roehampton yesterday

Whistle blown on penalty try decision

BY DAVID HANDS

COACHES from the England first and second division clubs will meet at Twickenham on Saturday before the international against Western Samoa to discuss whether ground rules for the domestic game laid down in the summer are being observed.

One significant talking point will be the message dispatched by Tony Spreadbury on Tuesday, when he awarded the first penalty try in the 123-year history of the University match. At least two international coaches are critical of Spreadbury's decision, which has, however, found support from the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) refereeing hierarchy. Spreadbury took action because of what he perceived as persistent infringement of the offside line by Oxford University, to the surprise of Bob Dwyer, of Australia, and Jack Rowell, the England manager and chief coach.

Dwyer, deposed as the Australia coach last month and now coaching Racing Club in Paris, queried whether a match official could award a penalty try on the basis of a preceding series of technical infringements. "It's like a policeman making up the law as he goes along," Dwyer said.

The Australian chaired an international meeting in Sydney last year that expressed concern precisely over persistent infringement and, last December, in the wake of England's game against Romania, a stream of technical offences designed to prevent England scoring tries prompted the RFU technical staff to highlight the same issue.

Dwyer's answer is the sin bin, which is used in Australia, but Steve Griffiths, the RFU's national refereeing officer, said yesterday that leading English referees were agreed that such offences — which come under the heading of foul play under law 26 — deserved to be punished if the match official believes a try would otherwise have been scored.

"What Tony's decision says to me is that persistent infringement should be penalised, both offside and killing the ball," Griffiths said.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	20	80	good	varied	fair	sun -6	10/12
(Mostly good skiing with wide selection of open pistes)							
AUSTRIA							
Ischgl	30	75	good	powder	fair	snow -8	13/12
(Fresh snow on good base; 15 of 41 lifts open)							
Kitzbühel	15	50	good	powder	fair	snow -4	13/12
(Resort not yet fully open but prospects good)							
Obergurgl	25	30	fair	powder	fair	snow -3	13/12
(More lifts now open and conditions improving)							
Obertauern	70	150	good	powder	good	snow -9	13/12
(Excellent skiing; fresh snow)							
Saalbach	30	60	good	powder	fair	snow -4	13/12
(Ski circus partly open; plenty of good skiing available)							
St Anton	20	110	fair	powder	fair	snow -5	13/12
(Modest snowfall giving some powder; odd worn patch)							
FRANCE							
Deux Alpes	10	125	good	varied	art	cloud -7	8/12
(Open pistes in reasonsbly good condition)							
Méribel	0	40	fair	varied	art	snow -2	13/12
(Light snowfalls; 25cm snow at Mottaret; four lifts open)							
Tignes	20	100	good	powder	art	snow -7	13/12
(Dusting of fresh snow on firm base; 14 of 49 lifts open)							
Val d'Isère	10	100	fair	varied	art	snow -5	13/12
(Snowing at last, but 20cm more needed to open 50 per cent of runs)							
ITALY							
Arabba	5	30	fair	varied	closed	cloud -7	7/12
(Lifts closed but should open at the weekend)							
SWITZERLAND							
Mürren	15	70	good	varied	closed	snow -2	13/12
(Light snowfalls yesterday softening conditions)							
Zermatt	0	80	fair	varied	closed	fair -11	2/12
(Very cold and some runs icy; snow machines in heavy use)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 41

SERRE

(c) Compact, logical, constricted by grief or emotion, from the French past participle of *serrer* to close together. D. H. Lawrence, letter, 1908: "My heart is serré — I shall soon have nothing inside my chest but the spent fragments of my organ of affection."

TORA

(a) In full *tora hartebeest*. A light brown hartebeest, *Alcelaphus buselaphus tora*, found in parts of northeastern Africa. From the Amharic. "The male of the tora has a large, round, convex tuft of darker hair in front of each eye."

ZIBIB

(b) A colourless, strongly alcoholic Egyptian drink made from raisins and drunk with added water which turns it white, like ouzo, absinth, raki or arrack. From the Arabic *zabib* dried grapes. Pronounced *zi.bib* by Kiwi servicemen in Egypt during the 1939–45 war, according to the editor of the *OED Supplement*. "I wandered sherry glass in hand, imagining it zibib or some other sharp foreign drink."

WEEKSITE

(c) A hydrated silicate and oxide of uranium and potassium, $K_2(UO_2)_2(SiO_3)_2.—H_2O$, found as soft, yellow orthorhombic crystals. An eponym of Alice M. D. Weeks (born 1909), United States geologist.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1, Qb5! Qxb5; 2, c8Q+ Kf7; 3, Qxe6+! Kxe6; 4, Nc7+ and White emerges a piece up.

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VH-1 is available on cable and satellite.

Dear Diary,

My family are visiting.
Hope they don't mind
sleeping 15 to a bunk bed
whilst my 18 foot revolving
circular bed is for me alone.
Whilst spinning on the bed
I stuck on VH-1. Lo and
behold at 6.00pm the semi-
precious mokared ginger
Mick Hucknall was crooning
some lovely melodies.
Took me back to the dentists.

VH-1
Where music means something.

RADIO CHOICE

Scots' view of the English

White Settlers. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

The extremist Scottish nationalists heard in John Forsyth's progress report on the English who have taken up residence north of Hadrian's Wall generally moderate their language. The exception is a listener who phones in to an Inverness radio station to tell the Yorkshire-born disc jockey: "You're an English bastard! Get lost!" All the DJ had done was to appeal to Scots bigots to leave the friendly invaders alone. The so-called "white settlers" sound a sensible and sensitive lot. One woman, up to her neck in community work, says: "The Scots don't have to justify themselves being in England. So why should the English in Scotland have to?" A brave comment, this, coming from somebody living a musket-shot away from Culloden where her ancestors knocked the Jacobites for six 250 years ago.

Tales of the Bizarre. *Radio 4, 11.00pm.*

I will send you a written apology if you can show conclusively that I have spoilt your enjoyment of Catherine Czerkawska's dramatisation of a Ray Bradbury story. With some trepidation, I must tell you that *Have I Got a Chocolate Bar for You* involves a slab of chocolate that receives a papal blessing. There, I've said it. But what you still do not know is how that blessed confectionery fits into the story of the priest (T. P. McKenna) who hears the confession of a chocolate addict (John Yule) who has guzzled his way through 2½ pounds of milk or plain every day for 12 years.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren 6.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Soundbite 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Thrower 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Change at Oglethorpe 7.30 David Allen 9.00 Paul Jones 9.45 The Gospel Train 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden, Incl at 1.30 Pause for Thought 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl at 10.35 Euronews and at 11.00 News; Gut Reaction 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck; and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl at 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 Sport 7.35 On the Line 8.05 Women on Top 9.05 SportsAmerica 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raeburn 4.00 Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz Dee 10.00 James Whale 1.00-6.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 5.30 Europe Today 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 *Middlemarch* 7.30 Network UK 8.00 World News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Composer of the Month 8.45 Good Books 9.00 News in German 9.15 Sport 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 BBC English 10.45 *Middlemarch* 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Sinatra: A Master at Work 12.00 World News 12.05pm World Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Assignment 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack: X-Press 3.00 News in German 3.15 The Learning World 3.30 Network UK 4.00 News 4.15 The World Today 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 News in German 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Faith 7.30 John Peel 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Take Five 11.15 Network UK 11.45 Health Midnight Newsdesk 12.30am On the Move 12.45 Britain 1.00 News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Heritage 1.45 Global Concerns 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Drama: *The Wizard of Oz* 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Faith 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe 4.45 Folk

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 The Travel Guide 8.00 Evening Concert. "Winter" music 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Horne 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air**, presented by Andrew McGregor. Prokofiev (Symphony-Concerto for cello and orchestra, Op 125); Haydn (Variations in F minor); Janáček (The Lord's Prayer); Spohr (Piano Trio No 4 in B flat); 8.05 Gabrieli (Sonata XXI for three violins); 8.32 *Symphony Series*: Mozart (Symphony No 33 in B flat)

9.00 **Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini**. Larsson (Winter's Tale); Donizetti (Tombe degli' avi miei, Lucia di Lammermoor); Beethoven (Sonata in A minor, Op 47, Kreutzer)

10.00 **Musical Encounters**, with Chris de Souza. *Artist of the Week*: Stephen Cleobury, conductor. Purcell (Suite No 7 in D minor); McCabe (Motet, Poems of James Clarence Mangan); Chopin (Impromptu in G flat); Holst (King Estmere); 10.55 Bach (Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr); Fricker (Litany); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 26 in D)

12.00 **Composer of the Week**: Copland (Preamble for a Solemn Occasion; Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson; Clarinet Concerto; The Tender Land, Act 2, Scene 1)

1.00pm **Fairest Isle: British Opera Matinée — Gloriana**. Chorus and Orchestra of the Welsh National Opera under Charles Mackerras perform Britten's opera, composed to celebrate the coronation of Elizabeth II. With Josephine Barstow, Philip Langridge, Della Jones, Jonathan Summers and Yvonne Kenny

3.45 **Brief Lives**. Music by George Frederick Pinto, one of the many talented but short-lived English composers of the 18th century (2/3)

4.30 **An Outside View**. The flamenco guitarist Paco Peña considers British music; 4.35 Albéniz, arr Halffter (Spanish Rhapsody: Alicia de Larrocha, piano; LPO under Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos)

5.00 **The Music Machine in Chicago**. Tommy Pearson visits the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians

5.15 **In Tune**, including Handel (Organ Concerto in B flat); 6.03 Field (Nocturne No 6 in F); Charles Wood (String Quartet in A minor)

7.30 **The Nash Ensemble**, live from the Purcell Room, London. Andrew Parrott conducts Stravinsky (Octet; Three Songs from Shakespeare); Tippett, arr Bowen (Suite, The Tempest); 8.30 Mythological themes in art, music and literature; 8.50 Tippett (Songs for Achilles); Stravinsky (Suite, The Soldier's Tale)

9.45 **Cinema 100: Lumière's Children**. Screen processes, from widescreen to 3D

10.10 **Bach Cello Suites**. Suite No 6 in D, BWV 1012

10.45 **Night Waves**. A first-night verdict on Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at the National Theatre

11.30-12.30am **Ulster Orchestra** under Robert Houlihan performs Rossini (Overture, Cinderella); Respighi (Three Botticelli Pictures); Tchaikovsky (Suite, The Nutcracker)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather

9.00-10.00, 10.30-3.00pm **Test Match Special** (LW only). South Africa v England. First day's play in the third Test at Kingsmead, Durban

9.00 **News** (FM) 9.05 **The Moral Maze** (FM only)

10.00-10.30 **News; King Street Junior** (FM) (2/6)

10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only)

10.15 **This Sceptr'd Isle** (LW only)

NB: **The following are on FM only until 3pm.**

10.30 **Woman's Hour**, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Clean Break* (9/13)

11.30 **From Our Own Correspondent**

12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with Tasneem Siddiqi

12.25pm **Wordly Wise**. Peter Hobday chairs the panel game about word origins 12.55 Weather

1.00 **The World at One** (FM and LW)

1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 **News; Thackeray**, by Olwyn Wymark and Barbara Clegg. Michael Cochrane stars as the eponymous landscape gardener cum private eye. With John Moffat and Rosemary Leach

3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift**, with Daire Brehan

4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope**. Simon Russell Beale talks about his role in the National Theatre's production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*; and there is a review of Stephen Sondheim's musical, *Company*

4.45 **Short Story: The Gambler's Funeral**, by Earl Lovelace. Read by Joe Charles

5.00 **PM**, with Chris Lowe and Nigel Wrench 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 **Six O'Clock News** 6.30 **Old Harry's Game**. A comedy series by Andy Hamilton (4/6)

7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**

7.20 **White Settlers**. See Choice

8.00 **Analysis**: Fairly Modern? John Kampfner examines the philosophical heart of Tony Blair's Labour Party. Last in the series

8.45 **Shelf Lives**. Nigel Cassidy discovers why Business Class has taken off

9.00 **Does He Take Sugar?** Judy Graham presents the magazine for listeners with disabilities

9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 **The World Tonight**, with Robin Lustig

10.45 **Book at Bedtime: The Go-Between**, by L.P. Hartley. Read by John Rowe (4/10)

11.00 **Tales of the Bizarre**: Have I Got a Chocolate Bar for You, by Ray Bradbury. See Choice

11.30-12.00 **Ad Lib** (FM only) (r)

11.30 **Today in Parliament** (LW)

12.00 **News**, incl 12.27 Weather

12.30 **The Late Book: Sucking Sherbert Lemons**. David Holt reads Michael Carson's novel (9/10)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 **As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1, FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2, FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4, FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

هكذا من الأصل

The good news? Des O'Connor doesn't sing

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Variety, so I am told, is the coming thing in television. *Paul Daniels' Secrets, Showstoppers, Jack Dee's Saturday Night* — they all suggest that for television's future, programme makers have gone straight back to its high-kicking, cane twirling, singalong past. And last night came proof positive — Des O'Connor was back.

O'Connor, of course, has never really gone away. He may have gone out of fashion for the occasional decade but he has rarely been out of the television schedules. I blame Eric Morecambe for that.

But now he is back — with a new series of **Des O'Connor Tonight** (ITV), a new set based on ancient Rome (I thought they had borrowed it from the British Comedy Awards but apparently it's all his own) and a new status, as the grandaddy of what will no doubt soon be dubbed Britvar.

For purists of the genre, there were disappointments. O'Connor did not sing. I'll try that again. O'Connor did not sing — aaah. That's better. Not a note. There was no duet with Bette Midler, no impromptu jam session with Robson and Jerome, there wasn't even a dance troupe. As I say, it was not an evening for purists.

Having given up singing (and we thank Eric Morecambe for that), what O'Connor now does between other people's turns is chat.

Or rather, that is what it looks like he is doing. The guests pick their way past urns and assorted statuary and join their host, not on the stone benches that the set surely requires, but on sofas. So far, so predictable.

Then O'Connor asks a question, normally just the one, and that's it. His guests are off, happily cannibalising old material safe in the knowledge that O'Connor won't interrupt or, worse still, say he's heard it before. So Alan Davies (a new face for ITV because he has only been on Channel 4) gave us large chunks of his stand-up routine, Rory Bremner proffered most of his last series and Robson and Jerome delivered the same "we're gob-smacked" routine that they have so far dished out to Richard and Judy, Anne and Nick, Alan Titchmarsh... O'Connor laughs loudly about every 30 seconds to show he is still listening.

Only Midler, newly reincarnated as Ms Prim, was polite enough to listen to his questions ("let's talk about you/today/movies") and then funny enough to demolish them. The pair discovered they both had eight-year-old daughters. Midler gave her sun-dried host, bedecked in blue suit and fright tie, a glance up and down: "Hey, you had a late start, Des." With variety back in vogue, it looks like it could be a late finish too.

Indian restaurants know all about late finishes. As the latest instalment of the excellent **A Slice of Life** (BBC2) put it: "Ten pints in the pub and then down to the local Indian for more beer and the ultimate macho challenge of a vindaloo" has become one of the ghastlier rituals of modern life.

But the deliberate choice of the hottest curry is about more than drunken machismo, we were told. It was also about the racism that has dogged Indian restaurants over the last 50 years. "It's part of the same cultural arrogance as 'I came, I saw, I conquered'," said Shreeram Vidyarthi, a restaurateur who, in common with others, waxed eloquent about the frustrations of the past but also looked forward to a brighter future.

Bhajis in Britain was fascinating about the development of Indian cuisine, how it moved out of the cafés of the postwar years and into the flock wallpaper and batch cooking of the 1960s, 1970s and... well, I could go on. The future, according to the co-owner of one forward-thinking establishment, lies with ever fresher ingredients and individually prepared dishes. As for decor, a theatrical bent had turned the Star of India into a cross between the Sistine Chapel and a Zeffirelli production. "We've gone from flock to Baroque," the restaurateur said proudly. I do hope for better reasons than that it just happened to rhyme.

Where the programme could have done better, however, was in providing more of a geographical guide to a success story that has turned chicken tikka masala into the roast beef of Saturday night Britain. Curry bores bang on endlessly about the relative merits of London or Bradford or Birmingham. It would have been helpful to know what the trade thought. And, while we are on the subject, it would have been even more helpful to know where some of the featured restaurants were. "Star of India" doesn't narrow it down very much.

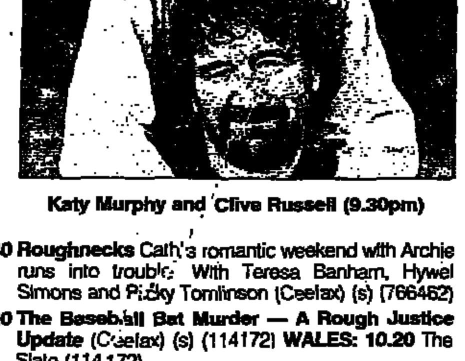
The latest **Modern Times** (BBC2) will have polarised opinion between those who enjoy shopping at John Lewis Partnership department stores and those who would rather drown in a vat of meat vindaloo. The former, account holders all, will have grown quickly annoyed with the persistently superior, mocking tone of Dan Reed's film. *Partners*, which, in the best traditions of this series, always ensured that several key characters were given just enough rope to do the needful.

The latter, however, will have delighted in the bureaucratic nightmare that John Spedan Lewis's utopian experiment in worker democracy has become. From the log in which all doggy deposits are faithfully recorded, to the handbag gauge which prevents staff, or rather partners, from entering the store with any bag bigger than 12in by 9in.

As for me, well I'm at that difficult crossover age when a morning at Peter Jones is not quite the nightmare it was a few years ago. Scary, huh?

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (36356)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (47821191)
9.10 Kilroy (s) (2897171)
10.00 News (Ceefax) (1417707)
10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (8935838)
10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (12608)
12.00 News (Ceefax) (8558269)
12.05pm Pebble Mill (s) (5797801)
12.50 Regional News and weather (64643646)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (17172)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (96186795)
1.50 The Flying Doctors (Ceefax) (s) (8268171)
2.35 The Spirit of England (r) (8745462)
2.50 Consuming Passions (3883424) **2.55 Lifeline** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (3191337) **3.05 Timekeepers** (s) (6773424)
3.30 Moomin (1524998) **3.55 Monster Cafe** (s) (3764207) **4.10 The Animals of Farthing Wood** (Ceefax) (s) (1804530) **4.35 Smart** (Ceefax) (s) (1182559)
5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (3516066)
5.10 The Biz (Ceefax) (s) (8974795)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (235882)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (337)
6.30 Regional News magazines (917)
7.00 Top of the Pops The week's bestselling singles (Ceefax) (s) (7240)
7.30 EastEnders. Cindy is playing the perfect wife — at least on the surface, and Pauline defends the Fowler name once more (Ceefax) (s) (801)
8.00 Animal Hospital. Rolf Harris checks up on some of the patients at an RSPCA hospital in the last of the present series (Ceefax (s) (3288)
8.30 The Brittas Empire. High Noon. In the last of the series, Brittas has found a job at a local garage having been given the heave-ho as manager of the leisure centre. Takings at Whitbury have soared but not all the staff are enamoured of the new manager (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2795)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (6733)

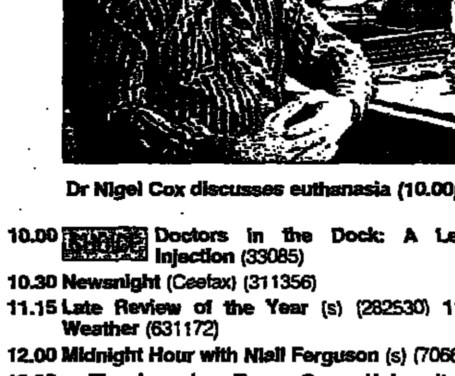


Katy Murphy and Clive Russell (9.30pm)

9.30 Roughnecks Cath's romantic weekend with Archie runs into trouble. With Teresa Banham, Hywel Simons and Ricky Tomlinson (Ceefax) (s) (766462)
10.20 The Baseball Bat Murder — A Rough Justice Update (Ceefax) (s) (114172) **WALES: 10.20** The Slate (114172)
10.50 Question Time. Political debate chaired by David Dimbleby from Nottingham (Ceefax) (6540801)
11.55 FILM: Positive ID (1987). With Stephanie Rascoe and John Davies. A young housewife is viciously assaulted. Determined to maintain her sanity, she formulates a deadly plan of action taking on a new identity. Directed by Andy Anderson (229646) **WALES: 1.55** *Redcaps* (783676) **12.25am** *Film:* Positive ID (5233467) **1.55** News headlines and weather (2196080)
1.25am Weather (2809660)

BBC2

6.00am Technology season: The Great Egg Race (53511) **6.30** Great Experiments (96191)
7.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (9062004) **7.15 Lassie** (2/2) (2764820) **7.40 Albert the 5th Musketeer** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (7686462) **8.05 Blue Peter** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (2054337) **8.35 The Record** (s) (7487443) **9.00 At the Risk of Our Lives** (r) (3264424) **9.50 Prue Leith's Tricks of the Trade** (r) (3045356) **10.00 Playdays** (s) (9385379)
10.25 FILM: Romance in Manhattan (b/w, 1934) starring Ginger Rogers and Francis Lederer. Enjoyable romp. Directed by Stephen Roberts (8628578)
11.40 The Fugitive (b/w Ceefax) (4459559) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (74820)
1.00 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams (48802530) **1.15 Movie Magic** (r) (44479627) **1.40 Even More of Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave** (s) (15466559) **1.55 Understanding Cats** (15449882) **2.10 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)** (r) (9613608) **3.00 News** (Ceefax) **Westminster with Nick Ross** (2721085)
3.55 News (Ceefax) (9553627)
4.00 Today's the Day (s) (530) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (714) **5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show** (Ceefax) (s) (5257356)
5.40 The Sky at Night (Ceefax) (s) (226269)
6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (Ceefax) (s) (748714) **6.45 Rocky Star** (b/w) (551004) **6.50 Human Rights, Human Wrongs** (s) (718066)
7.00 Waiting for God (r) (Ceefax) (s) (5882) **WALES: 7.00** Lifeswap (339608) **7.15** Assignment: Chechenia: a Russian Nightmare (853530)
7.30 First Sight. Failing the Children. Charles Carroll reports on Hackney Downs School (443)
8.00 Public Eye (Ceefax) (s) (4530)
8.30 Top Gear (Ceefax) (s) (3527)
9.00 The Ghostbusters of East Finchley (Ceefax) (s) (4375)
9.30 The Young Ones (r) (Ceefax) (61356)

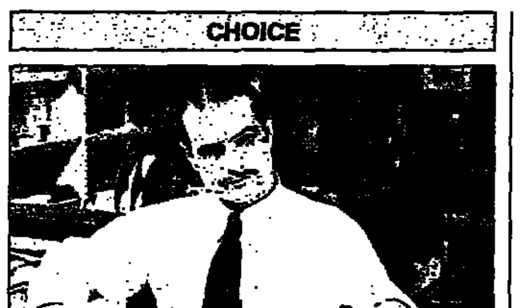


Dr Nigel Cox discusses euthanasia (10.00pm)

10.00 Doctors in the Dock: A Lethal Injection (33085)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (311356)
11.15 Late Review of the Year (s) (282530) **11.55 Weather** (631172)
12.00 Midnight Hour with Niall Ferguson (s) (70660)
12.30am The Learning Zone: Open University — Tilings at the Alhambra (35009) **1.00** Blue Haven (68950) **1.30** The True Geometry of Nature (87573) **2.00 FETV Short Cuts:** Law and Order (71196) **4.00 BBC Focus** (34825) **5.30** RCN Nursing Update (88689)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
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CHOICE



Anatomy of a monstrous obsession (C4, 9pm)

Secret Lives: Howard Hughes
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The *Secret Lives* series is in the business of busting reputations but in the case of Howard Hughes the job has largely been done. His paranoia, his reclusiveness, his corrupt business dealings and his possessive attitude towards women, have all been well documented. But by drawing on testimonies from three of Hughes's close aides, the programme is able to fill out the familiar picture with additional detail. A psychiatrist explains that the trouble with Hughes was an obsessive-compulsive disorder. Terrified of germs, he shut himself away in hotel suites with the windows covered. He was a monster all right but in the end it is possible to feel a tinge of pity for a sorry, emaciated figure who killed himself through neglect.

Hands Up
Channel 4, 8.00pm

The education magazine replaces its scheduled programme with a special edition looking at violence in schools. The peg, of course, is the terrible death of Philip Lawrence, the London headmaster who was stabbed while trying to help a pupil. The focus is on a recent interview with Lawrence, in which he discusses the role of the teacher in controlling and preventing violence inside and outside the school gates. He also talks about some of the strategies he has used, not without controversy, to restore discipline and raise standards in a previously troubled inner-city school. *Hands Up* reports on the dangers faced by teachers in protecting children and there is a debate on questions raised by the Lawrence killing.

Sophie's Meat Course: Beef
Channel 4, 8.30pm

The thought occurs that Sophie Grigson's informative series may have the opposite effect to the one intended and win converts for vegetarianism. Even the most devoted meat eaters who follow Grigson on a visit to a herd of Aberdeen Angus may feel a little uneasy that these fine animals will sooner or later be slaughtered to make meals. For those who have no such qualms the programme offers sensible advice on how to choose the best beef (above all, make sure it has been properly hung) and then to cook it for optimum flavour. Grigson's recipes include a roast, a stew and a salad and they are demonstrated with minimum flourish. The programme was made before the current concern about BSE but goes out unaltered.

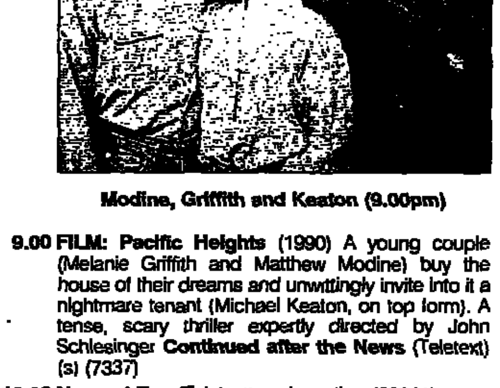
Doctors in the Dock: Lethal Injection
BBC2, 10.0pm

The behaviour of most of the fallen medics in this series has been difficult to sympathise with but Nigel Cox is likely to prove an exception. In 1992 he was convicted of the attempted murder of a patient. Lillian Boyes suffered from rheumatoid arthritis. As she aproached the end of her life, in unbearable pain, Dr Cox gave her a small dose of potassium chloride and she died peacefully. Her sons fully supported the doctor's action. But a nurse at the hospital reported him and he found himself in court. The case continues to raise tricky ethical questions. Dr Cox reflects honestly on what he did, explains his attitude towards euthanasia and talks of how the episode has affected his work since.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (8509240)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (8687240)
9.55 London Today (Teletext) (6935658)
10.00 The Time... The Place (s) (2463207)
10.35 This Morning (28490733) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) (8547153)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2305191)
12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (2380882)
1.25 Emmerdale (r) (Teletext) (44486917)
1.55 A Country Practice (s) (96114578)
2.20 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (18062559)
2.50 The Lady Killers. Women's health series (r) (Teletext) (5533714)
3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8011801)
3.25 London Today (Teletext) (8010172)
3.30 The Riddlers (3756288) **3.40 Wizadora** (s) (6924269) **3.50 Rupert's 75th Anniversary Edition** (3750004) **4.05 Warner Brothers Cartoon** (8151530)
4.15 Animaniacs (r) (Teletext) (s) (1805269) **4.40 Woof!** (Teletext) (s) (1466559)
5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (2492172)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (509004)
5.55 Your Shout (424820)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (733)
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (135)
7.00 Emmerdale (Teletext) (9608)
7.30 Peak Performance: Wall of Water. The cameras observe swimmer Mark Foster as he prepares for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta (Teletext) (s) (269)
8.00 The Bill: Got to Get a Body (Teletext) (8356)
8.30 Michael Barrymore's My Kind of People. Amateurs entertain (Teletext) (s) (3761)

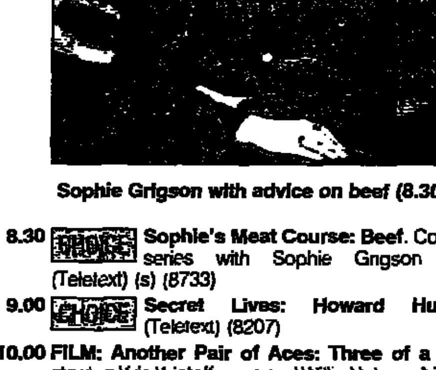


Modine, Griffith and Keaton (9.00pm)

9.00 FILM: Pacific Heights (1990) A young couple (Melanie Griffith and Matthew Modine) buy the house of their dreams and unwittingly invite into it a nightmare tenant (Michael Keaton, on top form). A tense, scary thriller expertly directed by John Schlesinger **Continued after the News** (Teletext) (s) (7337)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (20511)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (436581)
10.40 Pacific Heights (continues and concludes) (184581)
11.35 Big City (s) (933199)
12.05 FILM: The Blue Iguana (1988) starring Dylan McDermott and Jessica Harper. Film-noir spoof about a failed bounty-hunter. Directed by John Lafia (469047)
1.45am Shift (2571478)
2.40 The Beat (r) (s) (5858486)
3.35 The Album Show (r) (s) (9711641)
4.30 The Forum Presents Sister Sledge (r) (43641)
5.00 Vanessa (r) (Teletext) (s) (30689)
5.30 ITN Morning News (75115). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31 Cartoon series (r) (98559)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (18545)
9.00 FILM: The Razor's Edge (1946). Adaptation of the classic W Somerset Maugham novel about a rootless veteran from the First World War seeking spiritual fulfillment. Starring Tyrone Power. Directed by Edmund Goulding (21519646)
11.40 The Most Expensive Breakfast on Earth. Wordless film about a hungry train driver (4667795)
12.00 House To House Political magazine (27424)
12.30pm Sesame Street's guests are Arrested Development and Tracey Ullman (96795) **1.30 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz** (Teletext) (r) (36262191)
1.55 Augusta's Love Letter (27146375)
2.00 FILM: My Sister Eileen (1955) Two sisters from Ohio go to New York looking for success, and find romance. Starring Janet Leigh, Betty Garrett, Jack Lemmon and Bob Fosse. Directed by Richard Quine. (Teletext) (7578)
4.00 Think Tank (Teletext) (s) (998)
4.30 Fifteen To One (Teletext) (s) (882)
5.00 Ricki Lake: Ricki's Beach Party. The audience helps to judge a "sexiest lifesaver" competition. (Teletext) (s) (7083820) **5.45 Terrytoons** (506917)
6.00 Home Improvement (Teletext) (s) (375)
6.30 New Gamesmaster. Euro-pop singer Whigfield takes on Super Nintendo's *Yoshi's Island* and three contestants tackle *Virtua Fighter 2* (627)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (759240)
7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (304172)
8.00 CHOICE **Hands Up**. Continues the education series. (Teletext) (6998)



Sophie Grigson with advice on beef (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Sophie's Meat Course: Beef**. Cookery series with Sophie Grigson (5/6) (Teletext) (s) (8733)
9.00 CHOICE **Secret Lives: Howard Hughes** (Teletext) (8207)
10.00 FILM: Another Pair of Aces: Three of a Kind starring Kris Kristofferson and Willie Nelson. A Texas Ranger is helped by an affable conman to track down a gang of modern-day vigilantes. Directed by Bill Bixby. (Teletext) (727004)
11.45 Apache Goes Indian. Ragga musician Apache Indian meets some of Bombay's eccentric street entertainers. (Teletext) (s) (920337)
12.15am Dispatches (r) (9125467)
1.00 FILM: Land Without Music (1936, b/w). A vintage British musical about a famous tenor who, with the help of an American press agent, leads a bloodless revolution to reverse a Ruritanian princess's ban on singing which, she believes, takes her subjects' minds off making money. Starring Richard Tauber. Directed by Walter Forde (7887196)
2.25 FILM: Safari. Directed by Roger Vadim from an original story by Giorgio Stegani. A young reporter travels to Zaire for a wildlife magazine and grows close to a woman, who helps to run a hotel, and a seven-year-old refugee. But then he discovers a charity swindle involving the movement of medical supplies (262863). Ends at **4.20**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Emmerdale (2380882) **1.25** Home and Away (44486917) **2.50** High Road (5533714) **5.10** Shortland Street (2492172) **6.25** Anglia Weather (405820) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (135) **11.35** First Take (933199) **12.05am** Good Advice (3949863) **12.30** Film: The Last Fling (787115) **2.15** ITV Sport Classics (82009) **2.45** Best of British Motorsport (4095134) **3.10** The Beat (7535370) **4.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (90333979) **4.30** Quiz Night (43641)

CENTRAL
As London except: 2.50 High Road (5533714) **5.10** Shortland Street (2492172) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (278530) **11.35** Tales from the Crypt (933199) **3.35am** Jobfinder (450467) **5.20** Asian Eye (1907080)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (2380882) **1.25** Home and Away (89359269) **1.50** Vanessa (36257269) **2.20** The Lady Killers (18062559) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (5533714) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2492172) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (278530) **11.35-12.05am** Coach (933199) **4.30-5.00** Jobfinder (43641)

HTV WEST
As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (5614153) **1.20-1.50** Coronation Street (44487646) **2.50** Gardening Time (5533714) **3.25** HTV West Headlines (8010172) **5.10** A Country Practice (2492172) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (135) **10.30-10.40** HTV West News and Weather (436581) **11.35** Roadrunner (933199) **4.30am** Jobfinder (43641)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (6935658) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (8547153) **2.50-3.20** Designed by Emanuel (5533714) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (8010172) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (135) **7.30-8.00** Wales This Week (269) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (436581) **11.35** Peak Performance (933199)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (6935658) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (8547153) **12.55-1.25** Emmerdale (2380882) **1.25** Home and Away (44486917) **2.50** Shortland Street (5533714) **3.25** Meridian News and Weather (8010172) **5.10** Home and Away (2492172) **5.37** Three Minutes - Crimestoppers (411356) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (733) **6.30-7.00** Anything You Can Do (135) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (436581) **11.35** Time Trax (642998) **12.30am** Film: The Last Fling (787115) **2.15** ITV Sport Classics (82009) **2.45** Best of British Motorsport (4095134) **3.10** The Beat (7535370) **4.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (90333979) **4.30** Quiz Night (43641) **5.00** Freescreen (30689)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (6935658) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (8556801) **12.25-12.30** My Christmas Story (8555172) **12.55-1.25** Emmerdale (2380882) **1.25** Home and Away (44486917) **1.55** Wish You Were Here? (96114578) **2.50** A Country Practice (5533714) **3.25** Westcountry News; Weather (8010172) **5.10** Home and Away (2492172) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (53337) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News; Weather (436581) **11.35** Short Story Cinema (933199) **4.30am** Jobfinder (43641)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (6935658) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (8547153) **12.55-1.25** Emmerdale (2380882) **1.25** Home and Away (44486917) **2.50** Shortland Street (2289337) **3.15** Gardening Time (8021288) **3.25** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (8010172) **5.10** Home and Away (2492172) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (376511) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (135) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (436581) **11.35** Prisoner Cell Block H (642998) **12.30am** Film: Jimmy the Kid (239450) **2.05** America's Top Ten (6526221) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8910047) **3.05** Film: Season of Passion (181844) **4.40** Jobfinder (7085844)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (18545) **9.00** Film: The Razor's Edge (21519646) **11.40** The Most Expensive Breakfast On Earth (4667795) **12.00pm** House To House (27424) **12.30** The Pink Panther Show (54014646) **12.40** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (5833288) **1.00** Slot Meithrin (69022) **1.30** Film: Walk East On Beacon (25085375) **3.15** Ricki Lake (2023820) **4.00** Think Tank (998) **4.30** The Real Holiday Show (882) **5.00** 5 Pump Uned 5 (3694) **5.30** Fifteen To One (482) **6.00** Newyddion 6 (140356) **6.15** Heno (924207) **7.00** Pobl Y Cwm (852725) **7.25** Bacha Hi O 'Ma (371511) **8.00** Cyw Haul (6998) **8.30** Newyddion (8733) **9.00** Ana, Sabe A Susanne (8207) **10.00** Film: My Crazy Life (780608) **11.40** Without Walls: Unpeeled (688022) **12.10am** Without Walls: Ghost Stories (3927641) **12.40** The Last Europeans (6395252)

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE
7.00am The DJ Kat Show (24288) **8.00** Power Rangers (84733) **8.30** Press Your Luck (83004) **9.00** Court TV (74356) **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (76004) **10.30** Concentration (63240) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (57714) **12.00** Jeopardy (87820) **12.30** Murphy Brown (53676) **1.00pm** The Waltons (91511) **2.00** Geraldo (31288) **3.00** Court TV (8375) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (8504085) **4.20** Power Rangers (1698172) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9627) **6.00** The Simpsons (7511) **6.30** Jeopardy (1191) **7.00** LAPD (7396) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7375) **8.00** Due South (38068) **9.00** The Commish (41530) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (51917) **11.00** Law and Order (78207) **12.00** David Letterman (8106283) **12.45am** The Untouchables (6551134) **1.30** Rachel Gunn (51270) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (7056905)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (9863849) **10.30** ABC Nightline (61882) **11.00** News and Business (683172) **1.30pm** CBS News (37627) **2.30** Parliament (91004) **3.30** Parliament (6269) **4.00** News and Business (29820) **5.00** Live at Five (32207) **6.30** Adam Boulton (20153) **8.30** Worldwide (6153) **9.00** News and Business (359443) **11.30** CBS News (12462) **12.30am** ABC News (53689) **1.30** Adam Boulton (94757) **2.30** Newsmaker (78844) **3.30** Parliament (20689) **4.30** CBS News (45979) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (17115)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (66269) **8.00 Gold Diggers of 1933** (1933) (15240) **10.00 Me and the Kid** (1994) (53612) **12.00 L'Accompagnatrice** (1992) (38131) **2.00pm Khartoum** (1966) (49708801) **4.15 A Christmas to Remember** (1978) (76183608) **6.00 Me and the Kid** (1994) (97252795) **7.40 US Top Ten** (625801) **8.00 Mrs Doubtfire** (1993) (67578) **10.00 Calendar Girl** (1993) (698153) **11.35 The Crush** (1993) (939207) **1.10am Martin's Day** (1984) (100283) **2.45 Broken Promises: Taking Emily Back** (1993) (397318) **4.15-6.00 A Christmas to Remember** (1978) (605115)

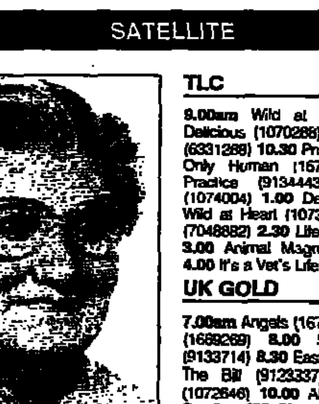
SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm The Barbarian and the Geisha (1958) (9801) **6.00 That's Entertainment, Part 2** (1976) (97882288) **8.05 Manhattan** (1979) (84044795) **10.00 Midway** (1976) (35077443) **12.15am Fast Times at Ridgemont High** (1982) (796680) **1.45-3.20 Scarface** (1932) (284979)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Labor of Love: The Arlette Schweitzer Story (1993) (57511) **8.00 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds** (1981) (13882) **10.00 Men Without a Star** (1955) (53694) **12.00 My Favourite Wife** (1940) (36733) **2.00pm Pardners** (1956) (33511) **4.00 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds** (1981) (5801) **6.00 Cradle of Conspiracy** (1994) (53375) **8.00 Accidental Hero** (1992) (58820) **10.00 The Movie Show** (88559) **10.30 A Few Good Men** (1992) (16116085) **12.50am The Red Shoe Diaries No 4: Auto Erotica** (1993) (6950467) **2.15 Search for Grace** (1994) (423047) **3.50-6.00 One of Her Own** (1994) (12275757)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL
Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Umbrella Tree (45459269) **6.30** Muppet Babies (33461608) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (36224085) **7.30** Ducktales (36236801) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (29606998) **8.30** Wonderland (29605269) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (29628849) **9.30** Pooh Corner (63437153) **10.00** Dumbo (33485288) **10.30** Quack Attack (29618733) **11.00** Walt Disney Presents (36252849) **12.00** Sinbad (29609085) **12.30pm** The Torkelsons (63448269) **1.00** Faerie (63436424) **2.00** Wonderland (70272559) **2.30** Umbrella Tree (62260917) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (70251066) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (62265462) **4.00** Quack Attack (62251269) **4.30** Ducktales (62240153) **5.00** Chip (70256511) **5.30** Danger Bay (62264733) **6.00** Tarzan (62261646) **6.30** Dinosaurs (62252998) **7.00** FILM: In the Nick of Time (63159153) **8.40** A Hot, Hot Christmas (50329882) **9.10-10.00** Aretha Franklin (80442676)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Equestrianism (54646) **8.30** Extreme (67085) **9.30** Live Biathlon (21578) **10.30** Eurokid (16917) **11.00** Supercross (86240) **12.00** Live Biathlon (89849) **2.00pm** Snowboarding (3462) **2.30** Skiing (31646) **3.30** Karting (79694) **4.30** Extreme (68714) **5.30** Biathlon (48424) **6.30** News (7153) **7.00** Golf (18849) **9.00** Pro Wrestling (72424) **10.00** Boxing (75511) **11.00** Extreme (72743) **12.00-12.30am** News (49738)

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Cricket: South Africa v England (4885172) **3.00pm** Rugby (7801) **3.30** Ice Warriors (35820) **5.00** Wrestling Zone (8153) **6.00** Centre (1795) **6.30** Tight Lines (21269) **7.30** FA Cup Second Round Replay: Brighton v Fulham (984288) **10.00** Centre (40830) **10.30** Tight Lines (53882) **11.30** Soccer (63801) **12.00** Rugby (57375) **12.30am** FA Cup (35462) **2.00-2.30** Centre



Robin Williams in drag as *Mrs Doubtfire* (Sky Movies, 8.00pm)

SKY SPORTS 2
7.00pm The Rugby Club (6596795) **8.00** Cricket: third Test (5454085) **11.00** The Rugby Club (1723199) **12.00-1.00am** American Sports Cavalcade (2434806)

SKY TRAVEL
11.00am Globetrotter (1311627) **11.30** Ski Perfect (1312356) **12.00** Discover Your World (2017714) **12.30pm** Pierre Franey (2380801) **1.00** Around the World (8678220) **1.30** Travel Guide (2389172) **2.00** Ski Special (9280578) **3.00** Getaway (4309998) **3.30-4.00** Boomerang (2091207)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL
4.00pm Century (1335207) **5.00** Alive (4322578) **6.00-7.00** Biography (2398820)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL
1.00am Swamp Thing **1.30** Ray Bradbury (8756426) **2.00** FILM: Dark Intruder (3967347) **3.30** Ray Bradbury (7167757)

TLC
9.00am Wild at Heart (9154207) **9.30** Delicious (1070288) **10.00** It's a Vet's Life (6331288) **10.30** Prisoners (9143191) **11.00** Only Human (1676559) **12.00** General Practice (9134443) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (1074004) **1.00** Delicious (1670375) **1.30** Wild at Heart (1073375) **2.00** Will It Hurt? (7048882) **2.30** Life is for Living (8694462) **3.00** Animal Magnetism (7057917) **3.30-4.00** It's a Vet's Life (8606207)

UK GOLD
7.00am Angels (1673462) **7.30** Neighbours (1669269) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (9133714) **8.30** EastEnders (9132085) **9.00** The Bill (9123337) **9.30** The Sullivans (1072646) **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small (1656153) **11.00** Dallas (1676917) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (9136801) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1076462) **1.00** EastEnders (1672733) **1.30** The Bill (1075733) **2.00** The Sullivans (64791135) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (3163917) **3.00** Angels (7069375) **3.30** Eldorado (8675337) **4.00** Miss Marple: A Pocketful of Rye (95900066) **5.05** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (41227356) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (6459172) **6.25** EastEnders (2002820) **7.00** Eldorado (7051356) **7.30** Taxi (8684085) **8.00** George and Mildred (7060004) **8.30** What a Carry On! (7049511) **9.00** Minder (5401820) **10.00** The Bill (6259733) **10.35** Classic Sport (1073172) **11.35** KYTV (8039646) **12.10am** Dr Who (2273370) **12.40** FILM: The Court Martial of Jackie Robinson (3519738) **2.15** Shopping at Night

TCC
6.00am Casper (69646) **7.00** The New Pink Panther Show (38288) **7.30** Ready or Not (17795) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (39882) **8.30** Casper (6277337) **8.45** Dinobabies (6298820) **9.00** Tiny TCC (8848530) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (63443) **2.30** Happily Ever After (6066) **3.00** Sonic (8559) **3.30** The New Pink Panther Show (1511) **4.00** California Dreams (8266) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (9530)

NICKELODEON
6.00am Blue (59733) **6.30** Count Duckula (81207) **7.00** Batfink (1666714) **7.05** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (3697153) **7.45** Rugrats (495066) **8.15** Doug (511578) **8.45** Rocko (5402733) **9.00** Alvin (23207) **9.30** Pee-Wee (41191) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (19578) **11.00** Children's BBC (99714) **12.00** Rocko (90153) **12.30pm** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (52207) **1.00** Ship to Shore (93530) **1.30** Mighty Max (51578) **2.00** Speed Racer (3608) **2.30** Galaxy High School (8608) **3.00** Count Duckula (5443) **3.30** The Littlest Pet Shop (3153) **4.00** Mutant Turtles (2288) **4.30** Rugrats (1172) **5.00** Clarissa (7288) **5.30** Fish And Chips (2424) **6.00** Doug (9337) **6.30** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (3917) **7.00** Fish and Chips (7424) **7.30-8.00** Nancy Drew (2801)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Nature Watch (8685714) **4.30** Life in the Wild (8681998) **5.00** The Blue Revolution (7058269) **6.00** Invention (8695191) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (1520269) **7.30** Houston, We've Got a Problem (8682627) **8.00** Weather (7068646) **8.30** Ultra Science (7047153) **9.00** Blood and Honour (1020795) **9.30** Science (1054240) **10.00** Mercedes (5419849) **11.00** Top Marques (1025240) **11.30-12.00** Special Forces (6320172)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Half Human (98037356) **1.15pm** Honey West (7999801) **2.00** Danger Man (6329443) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7054443) **3.30** Man from Interpol (8693733) **4.00** FILM: Woman in the Window (7065559) **6.00** Scotland Yard (8699917) **6.30** The Critic (8680269) **7.00** The Critic (7046424) **7.30** The Protectors (8679153) **8.00** Space 1999 (5483424) **9.00** The Prisoner (5403288) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Breaking Glass (1031801)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (7412375) **7.00** Living Magazine (6200917) **9.00** The Treatment (2195172) **9.30** Kate and Allie (5298424) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (1802462) **10.50** Entertainment Now! **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3066240) **11.55** Food and Drink (6119172) **12.30pm** Brookside (5641462) **1.05** Kilroy (1194269) **2.00** Agony Hour (4172733) **3.00** Living Magazine (4829337) **4.00** Infatuation UK (8568066) **4.30** Crosswits (7605530) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (69426938) **5.30** Bewitched (8571530) **6.00** Esther (8578443) **6.30** Brookside (8963375) **7.05** Jerry Springer (7231917) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (4478337) **9.00** FILM: Love on the Run (27898207) **10.55** Entertainment Now (3551004) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (6280153)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm The Wonder Years (3004) **5.30** The Adventures of Tintin (8022) **6.00** Batman (7795) **6.30** Catchphrase (1375) **7.00** Through the Keyhole (3240) **7.30** My Two Dads (7559) **8.00** The Darling Buds of May (25530) **9.00** The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: Kissing the Gunner's Daughter (12066) **10.00** All Clued Up (40998) **10.30** Neon Rider (95882) **11.30** Batman (99172) **12.00** Adventures of Tintin (81738) **12.30am** Concentration (79405) **1.00** Zorro (77221) **1.30** Rhoda (92026) **2.00** Neon Rider (19467) **3.00** Rhoda (64757) **3.30** Zorro (41931) **4.00** The Wonder Years (39196) **4.30-5.00** The Black Stallion (65486)

MTV
6.30am The Grind (87066) **7.00** 3 from 1 (8478917) **7.15** Awake (4018578) **8.00** Music Videos (146191) **10.30** Rockumentary (50375) **11.00** Soul (28801) **12.00** Hits (79998) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (8390269) **2.15** 3 from 1 (90171646) **2.30** Sports (8424) **3.00** Cinematic (8897191) **3.15** Hanging Out (7237917) **4.00** News **4.15** Hanging Out (2594608) **4.30** Dial MTV (8288) **5.00** The Dance Chart (5462) **5.30** Hanging Out/Dance (64220) **7.00** Greatest Hits (18240) **8.00** Most Wanted (47424) **9.30** Beavis and Butthead (70627) **10.00** News (161240) **10.15** Cinematic (166795) **10.30** Aeon Flux (51004) **11.00** The End? (10191) **12.30am** Night Videos (9841844)

VH-1
7.00am Power Breakfast (9028761) **9.00** Café (1269733) **12.00** Heart and Soul (2378066) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (2387714) **2.00** Ten of the Best: Peter Hook (9259608) **3.00** Into the Music (6960694) **6.00** VH-1-2-3: Simply Red (2307578) **7.00** VH-1 for You (6598153) **8.00** Review (6507801) **9.00** Ten of the Best: David Brabham (6594337) **10.00** The Vinyl Years (6597424) **11.00** The Bridge (8778608) **1.00am** Ten of the Best: Robert Palmer (1564339) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV
7.00am Asian Morning (11993207) **8.30** Yule Love Stories (54949659) **9.00** Bengali FILM (10487917) **11.30** Surer Daali (44443191) **12.00** Dekh Bhai Dekh (50349694) **12.30pm** India Show (62300530) **1.00** Hindi FILM: Aanso Bane Angarey (25396646) **4.00** Zee Top Ten (44433714) **5.00** Zee Zone **5.30** Punjabi Folk (21546288) **6.00** Dillagi (21536801) **6.30** Zee and U **7.00** Highlife (59544288) **7.30** Galaxzee (21523337) **8.00** News (59520608) **8.30** Andaz (59532443) **9.00** Kachey Draagey (89286578) **10.00** Zee Horror (59599153) **10.30** Commander (43694761) **11.00** Your Zindagi (44434443) **11.30-12.00** Kranna (46836066)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 8pm, then TNT films as below.
7.00pm Advance to the Rear (1964) (36235172) **9.00 Hide in Plain Sight** (1980) (68304822) **11.00 The Prisoner of Zenda** (1922) (12234820) **1.15-5.00am Napoleon** (1954) (42503825)

Fickle weather forces Illingworth to delay final selection of bowlers

England blown off course by wind of change

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN DURBAN

STRONG winds howled into Durban off the Indian Ocean yesterday, blowing the certainty out of the England strategy for the third Test against South Africa. The gusting wind cleared the clouds and brought strong sunshine to dry and brown the Kingsmead pitch like a cake in an oven, leaving England no option but to wait until breakfast this morning before finalising their side.

All that Raymond Illingworth, the tour manager, would confirm was that Mark Ramprakash and Darren Gough are not under consideration. The former is ill, the latter injured, though neither would have played anyway. The remaining 14 are in contention — even Mike Watkinson, whose chance of making the XI depends, like so much else, on the weather.

Conditions in Durban are as fickle as on any Test ground in the world. Some put it down to the shifting winds, others to the tides, but the crucial factor is that when the cloud cover is low and the humidity high, nobody would be willing to bat.

"It can be a nightmare playing here," Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, said. "Things change so quickly that you always want to name your team after the toss."

England will not be allowed that privilege, but they will correctly leave selection as late as possible, within the unusual parameter of play starting at 9.35am local time because of the short Natal evenings. The six batsmen, including John Crawley, back at No 3, and Robin Smith, back in the city of his upbringing, are inked into the side, so four bowlers have to be selected from the seven available.

Other than Dominic Cork, nobody can be sure of a place, not even Devon Malcolm, who vindicated his surprise inclusion in the drawn second Test in Johannesburg by taking six wickets, or Angus Fraser, the rock of the attack. "We're not just talking about the last bowling spot here, the whole thing is wide open," Illingworth said.

Mark Ilott, whose last Test was Michael Atherton's first as captain, and Peter Martin, whose promising start at this level was interrupted by an ankle injury in July, will rise in hope this morning and Illingworth did not discount the notion that both might play if it is thought conditions will suit swing. If that is the case, however, another alternative is to use Watkinson in a utility role, switching between seam and spin.

Perhaps the most durable attack would be Cork, Fraser, Ilott and Richard Illingworth, but the only certainty last night was that a good deal of debate, and possibly unhealthy indecision, lay ahead, the manager having hinted heavily that he had already conceded one battle through the reluctance of Atherton to gamble on a five-man attack.

In other times, this wish might have been accommodated by dispensing with Jack Russell and handing the gloves to Alec Stewart, but, for once, that threat does not exist. Russell, who used his day off on Tuesday to satisfy an ambition to paint his impression of the battleground at Rorke's Drift, has done enough to be sure of his place for some time to come.

Selection decisions are all the more sensitive because of the pivotal nature of the match. "This is the key game of the series," Atherton said. "This is probably a result pitch and the team that wins has a very good chance of at least not losing the series. With it being a particularly difficult ground for reading the conditions, it is doubly important we take our time and get it right."

Neither side can reflect with pride on team and toss decisions thus far. At Centurion Park, South Africa packed their side with seam bowlers, put England into bat and were arguably saved by rain. In Johannesburg, England duplicated the folly and were saved, appropriately and heroically, by Atherton. It is doubtful either captain will insert with confidence for a third time, although a heavy, cloudy morning would make it tempting.

When the pitch was first unveiled on Tuesday, after a night of steady rain, it was damp and green, with a thick covering of grass. Geoffrey Boycott, peering at it suspiciously, pronounced to nobody in particular: "If we are starting the game on that, I'm batting after you — and I won't have to wait long for my turn." By yesterday, however, it had altered texture and colour and the groundsman, Phil Russell, the former Derbyshire seam bowler, predicted it would be a surface for batting first. Atherton was inclined to agree and added that similar conditions today would encourage the inclusion of a spinner.

"The important thing is how we play," he said. "I have been emphasising how poorly we performed for four days in Johannesburg and you don't win Tests by playing as moderately as that." Woolmer also complained about the stress being laid on the psychological shift brought about by the England escape at the Wanderers. "From all that's been said, you would think we were 2-0 down with three to play, rather than 0-0."

When the cricket resumes this morning, South Africa will hope Shaun Pollock has recovered from tendon trouble in his left foot. They may also introduce the gifted Jacques Kallis instead of their spin bowler, Clive Eksteen. As to the final England XI, not even Illingworth went to bed last night with more than a sketchy notion.

John Woodcock, page 44
Headley ready, page 44

TEAMS

SOUTH AFRICA (from): W J Cronje (captain), A C Hudson, G Kirsten, D J Cullinan, J N Rhodes, J H Kallis, B M McMillan, D J Richardson, S M Pollock, C R Matthews, A A Donald, M W Pringle, C E Eksteen

ENGLAND (from): M A Atherton (captain), A J Stewart, J P Crawley, G P Thorpe, G A Hick, R A Smith, R C Russell, D G Cork, R K Illingworth, A R C Fraser, D E Malcolm, M C Ilott, P J Martin, M Watkinson.

Umpires: S A Buckner (West Indies) and D L Orchard (South Africa). TV replays: K E Lieberberg (South Africa). Match referee: C H Lloyd (West Indies)



Ramprakash takes a relaxed view of his team-mates in practice for the third Test. Photograph: Graham Morris

Halifax made to proceed against Goulding

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

HALIFAX said yesterday that they were "surprised and confused" at having to instigate disciplinary proceedings against Bobbie Goulding, the St Helens captain, believing it was the responsibility of the Rugby League.

The Yorkshire club has cited the international scrum half for an alleged illegal tackle during the Regal Trophy quarter-final meeting on Sunday at Knowsley Road in which John Fieldhouse, the Halifax prop, sustained a broken jaw.

Goulding faces a hearing — and a possible suspension — in Leeds today after the league's executive committee was shown a video recording of the incident and referred the matter to the disciplinary committee. Halifax were under the impression that the league would assume the duty this season of citing players thought guilty of foul or dangerous play.

Steve Simms, the Halifax coach, said: "All the coaches were told before the season started that the league were going to take the onus of citing players off the clubs, so that the clubs wouldn't have to worry about appearing to be vindictive or falling out between themselves."

However, Greg McCallum, the controller of referees, said: "The onus is not necessarily on the league. It is a joint effort between the club, the league and the referee to provide a safe environment for players to play in. If a foul is committed, any one of those provisions can take place.

"In the case of an injured player, it is essential the club pass on that information to the league and the only real way they can do it that would be acceptable to everyone is to lodge a complaint, which is exactly what they did."

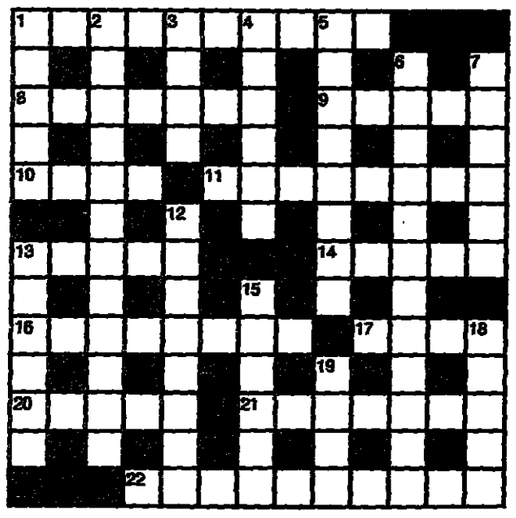
Suspension could rule Goulding out of St Helens's busy holiday schedule, which includes a Boxing Day match at Wigan and the Regal Trophy semi-final against Warrington. First, they are at Castleford next Wednesday.

St Helens said they were "surprised and disappointed" with the decision by Halifax to instigate proceedings against Goulding.

Cook moves, page 45

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 652 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS
1 Simplicity itself (6,4)
8 Old: old man (7)
9 Division of act (5)
10 Process of voting (4)
11 A swindle (3,5)
13 Accommodate (5)
14 Animated, vigorous (5)
16 Collar-bone (8)
17 To cripple (4)
20 Jungle Book bear (5)
21 Raises doubts (about) (7)
22 (Love) not returned (10)

DOWN
1 Immobiliser (5)
2 Great beyond reckoning (12)
3 (Cloth) given a new colour (4)
4 Quality arousing pity (6)
5 Frenchman: guard-dog (8)
6 One through to last four (12)
7 Disrupt speaker (6)
12 Big narrow-necked bottle (8)
13 Priam's queen; why weep for her? (Hamlet) (6)
15 Exclusive group (6)
18 Pondered (5)
19 Country, capital Lima (4)

PRIZES:
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All flights are subject to availability.

British Midland

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address .....

.....

SOLUTION TO No 651
ACROSS: 1 Parapet 5 Jabot 8 Nippy 9 Repulse 10 Come again 12 Awe 13 Stocky 14 Shouts 17 Nil 18 Smell a rat 20 Lignite 21 Avail 23 Tithe 24 Solomon
DOWN: 1 Panic 2 Rap 3 Pay/back 4 Tarzan 5 Japan 6 Beleaguer 7 Thrones 11 Moonlight 13 Singlet 15 Holdall 16 Recess 18 Spire 19 Tuition 22 Arm

McGhee and Kendall installed for struggle against relegation

BY PETER BALL

THE music stopped yesterday in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division's game of managerial musical chairs. Mark McGhee and Howard Kendall promptly found new seats. To nobody's surprise, Wolverhampton Wanderers appointed Mark McGhee as their new manager, while Kendall has replaced Dave Bassett as manager of Sheffield United.

That leaves Bassett, who left Bramall Lane on Tuesday after eight years, without a managerial chair, and Leicester City without a manager. The match would seem obvious, but Martin George, the Leicester chairman, refused to be hustled into an appointment yesterday as he licked his wounds after having a second manager walk out on him in the space of a year.

McGhee has been given a 3½-year contract, at a figure believed to be well over £200,000-a-year. Colin Lee, his assistant manager at Leicester, and Mike Hickman, his coach, have gone with him.

The appointment seemed only a matter of time and decorum, from the moment McGhee handed in his resignation as Leicester manager a week ago. After all the bitterness with Leicester refusing to accept the resignation, Wolverhampton have at least tried to rescue some decorum, agreeing a compensation package with Leicester, believed to be around £750,000, and getting that club's "reluctant" permission to talk to McGhee before announcing his appointment.

Even McGhee, whose departure from Reading for Leicester a year ago had also been acrimonious, had the grace to be a little shame-faced about the events. "I hope to be here for more than a year," he said wryly. "I have avoided tormenting myself with all that has been said, but I think it's understandable there is resentment that I left at the stage I did. It is a career decision and it's one I had to face. I didn't expect it to come up after I'd been at Leicester only a year and I had the decision whether I would stay at Leicester for another three or four years for another such opportunity to come up.

"I talked to my family and other people, but the size of Wolves and the potential are irresistible and would be to anyone with real ambition in the game. It is the sort of job I have been gearing towards all my managerial career."

McGhee's first task, however, is to rescue Wolverhampton from their position near the relegation zone. For the second time in a year, he has left a club in a good position to gain promotion for one with greater potential that is threatened by relegation. Unlike at Leicester a year ago, Wolverhampton's position is a false one, although the failures of the pre-season promotion favourites proved too much for Graham Taylor, whose resignation last month led to the vacancy.

McGhee's inheritance is a lot more promising than Kendall's at Sheffield United. Bassett's departure, after an unrewarding struggle at a club with little money that was forced to sell its few assets, sees the club below Wolverhampton and among the favourites for relegation.

Kendall, one of the game's outstanding older managers, who won two championships with Everton in 1985 and 1987, has appointed Adrian Heath as his assistant. He was optimistic yesterday and the arrival of Mike McDonald as chairman offers some hope for a change in United's circumstances.

"I'm thrilled to be back at an ambitious club with an ambitious chairman," Kendall said. "Our short-term objective is to get points, improve our league position and achieve safety."



McGhee circumspect on departure at Molineux yesterday

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